FC FLOWER COMICS
少コミフラワーコミックス

天は赤い河のほとり ①

篠原千絵

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FC6501

9784091365019
ISBN4-09-136501-9
C9979 ¥379E
19299979003791
定価：本体379円＋税
雑誌 46075－01　小学館

少コミ
フラワーコミックス

●作品紹介

★夕梨（ゆうり）は、中3のごく普通の女の子。ところがある日、水たまりの中から出てきた"手"にひきこまれ、時空を超え、なんと古代ヒッタイト帝国に、連れて来られてしまう…!!　そしてそこで出会った、カイル皇子に助けられ…!?　サスペンスの第一人者、篠原千絵が放つ、大ヒット大型歴史ロマンの第1巻。

WHERE THE SKY AND RED RIVER MEET
February 1995, Japan.
ドキン
ドキン
ドキ
...that was when I got my first kiss.

presented by #MangaCo@irc.AnimeCo.org

＊少コミフラワーコミックス＊

篠原千絵 ①

天は赤い河のほとり

WHERE THE SKY AND RED RIVER MEET

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ketsugi

EVEN THOUGH I'VE GOT SO MUCH TO SAY TO YOU...
IT'S TOO EMBARASSING, AFTER ALL...
S... SORRY, YUURI.
I CAN'T DO IT TODAY.
HIMURO!?
SEE YOU AT SCHOOL...

Kiss... I finally kissed him?

I finally kissed Himuro!?

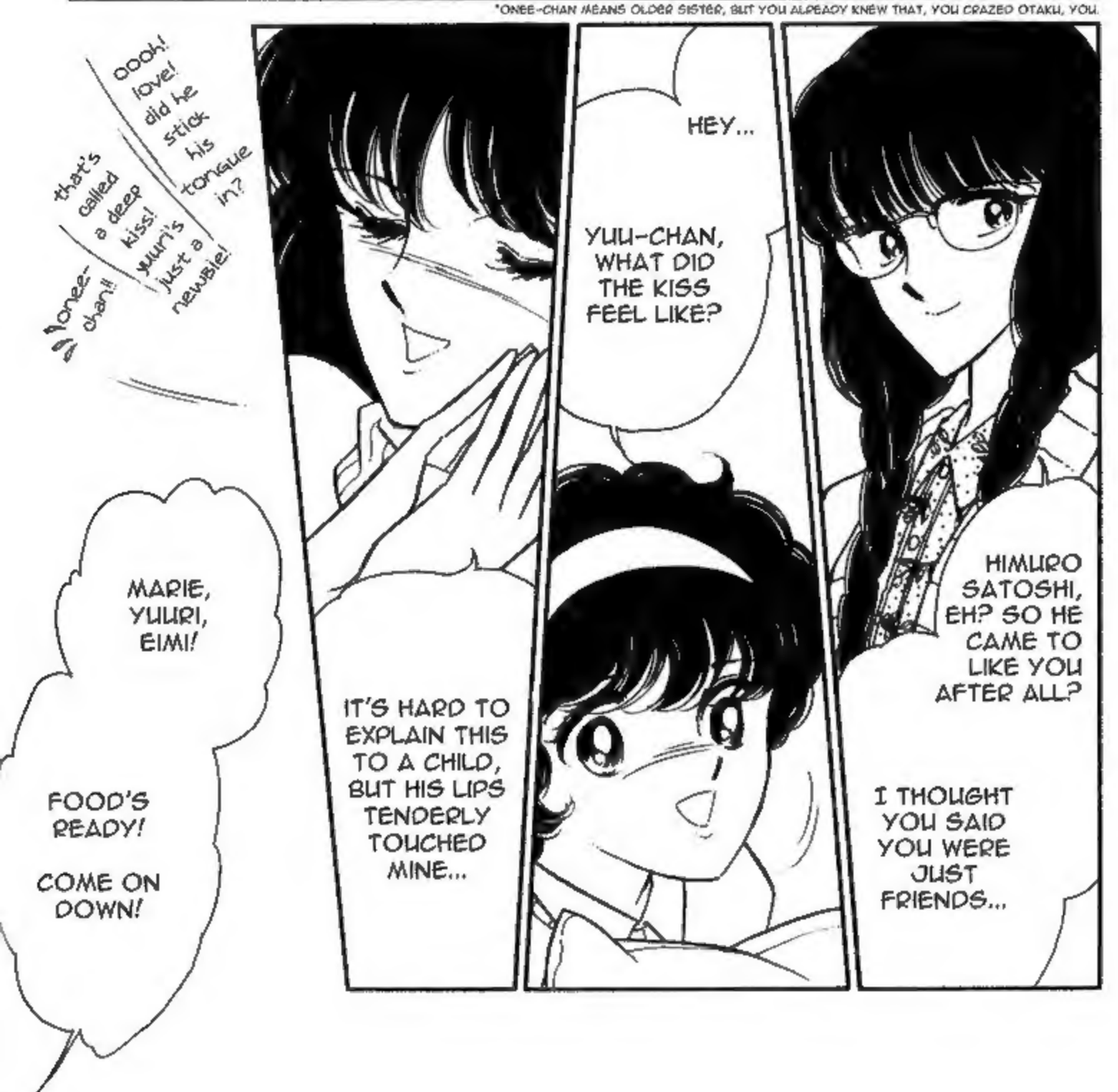
We've been friends in the same class for three years...

when did he start to like me...

Himuro —— !!

YAHOOOOOO!!
15 years of age,
3rd year in middle-school.
This is the book's main character:
Yuuri Suzuki.
A KISS!?
YOU FINALLY DID IT!

*ONEE-CHAN MEANS OLDER SISTER, BUT YOU ALREADY KNEW THAT, YOU CRAZED OTAKU, YOU.


oooh! love! did he stick his tongue in?
that's called a deep kiss! yuuri's just a newbie!
onee-chan!!
HEY... YUU-CHAN, WHAT DID THE KISS FEEL LIKE?
IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN THIS TO A CHILD, BUT HIS LIPS TENDERLY TOUCHED MINE...
HIMURO SATOSHI, EH? SO HE CAME TO LIKE YOU AFTER ALL?
I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WERE JUST FRIENDS...
MARIE, YUURI, EIMI!
FOOD'S READY! COME ON DOWN!

WOW♥
WHAT A FEAST!
IT'S TO CELEBRATE YUURI PASSING HER HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS.
THANK YOU FOR PUTTING ALL YOUR EFFORT INTO GETTING INTO THE SCHOOL OF YOUR CHOICE.
MAMA, WE ALREADY HAVE ONE THING TO CELEBRATE, HER FIRST KI—
EIMI!
WHAT WAS THAT?
N... NOTHING, PAPA...
HEY YUURI, IF THESE GOOD THINGS KEEP HAPPENING, A METEORITE MIGHT APPEAR AND CRUSH YOU!
Oooh! Yuuri's favorite!
MARIE-CHAN, YOU'RE TERRIBLE!

But, really...
now I'm free from all that studying...
and Himuro...
heeehee!
Ah, Eimi! That's wine!
Congrats, Yuu!
Even if one or two bad things happened now, I'd have nothing to fear!
OH, I'LL GO AND GET IT.
YEAH, IT'S IN THE KITCHEN.
IS THE WHISKEY AND WATER READY?
YUU-CHAN, BRING SOME JUICE TOO.
ARE YOU SURE!?

OH, OK!
YUURI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HURRY UP AND COME HERE!
...did the water just fly out of there?
Just now...

The water couldn't have just risen up like that all by itself...
What happened last night must have been my imagination...
YO! YUURI, YOU'RE SLOW.
WE'RE DOING THE DAILY DUTIES TODAY. SENSEI SHOULD BE GIVING OUT THE GRADUATION SCHEDULES.
OH, HIMURO...
GOOD MORN—

キン
—ING...

ボソ
I... I'LL GIVE OUT THE PRINTS MYSELF...
NO, I'LL HELP TOO.
しゃく
N... NO, IT'S ALL MY FAULT...
カア
I... I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTER-DAY...

I'm such an idiot...
He startled me and I must've given him a weird look... now he's gotten all worried...
HIMURO, WHERE ARE THE PRINTS?
FUNNY...
THE TEACHER SAID THEY'D BE IN THE PREPARATION ROOM.

Ugh, I shouldn't be worrying like this...
How many times have the two of us been alone together already?
COULD YOU TRY LOOKING OVER THERE?
OKAY...
I'd better find it quickly.
IF ONLY SENSEI HAD PUT THE PRINTS SOMEWHERE EASY TO FIND...
THAT'S TRUE...

ゴボ
GEEZ!
HEY HIMURO, LET'S GO ASK SENSEI AGAIN WHERE THE PRINTS ARE...

トプン
HUH?

KYAAA

YUURI!?
NOOO!
HIMURA!
THERE'RE HANDS IN THE FISHTANK...!!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
LOOK OVER THERE!!

No...
!!
UH... I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED...
BUT THOSE TROPICAL FISH WERE PRETTY IMPORTANT TO YOSHIDA...
I'm certain... I'm sure the hands came out of the fishtank...
This can't be!
ビチ
ビチ
ビチ

Y'KNOW, YUU-CHAN,

YOU NEED TO USE A BIT OF COMMON SENSE!

I'M SURE ABOUT IT! HOW COULD I HAVE IMAGINED THAT!?

It felt exactly like I was being touched!

YOU DIDN'T REALIZE IT, BUT ALL THAT STUDYING FOR YOUR TESTS MUST HAVE SHOT YOUR NERVES.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

UH...

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN IMAGINING THINGS,

YUU-CHAN.

.....

YUURI, THE BATH IS FREE NOW.

YOU'RE THE LAST ONE, SO HURRY UP AND TAKE IT.

OH NO, I SHOULD STOP...

I'M GETTING DIZZY...

YEAH...

...IN TRUTH, IT WAS PROBABLY ALL JUST MY MIND PLAYING TRICKS ON ME...

コポポポ

IF I TELL ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THE HANDS COMING OUT OF THE FISH TANK, THEY'D NEVER BELIEVE ME...

コポリ

...I guess it's true...

Thinking over it calmly, it's not possible that all that stuff could have happened...

!!
ゴボッ!!

I've caught you...
!!
Is this some kind of dream!?
Me? You mean me!?
I've finally caught you, my girl!

I'm being pulled in!
!
YUURI, WHAT'S WRONG?!
!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING!?
WERE YOU DROWNING IN THE BATH!?

I've finally caught you, my girl!
Is there someone out to try and get me?
So I wasn't imagining things...

Up till now...
WHY!?
WHY ME!?

Up till now, everything's been connected to water...
Does that mean I should stay away from water?

HEY YUURI, WANNA GO TO YOKOHOMA NEXT SUNDAY?
I'LL PASS! THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING NEAR THE OCEAN!
YOU'RE SKIPPING SCHOOL BECAUSE IT'S RAINING?
SORRY!
HI YUURI, I'VE GOT THESE TICKETS TO A HEATED POOL...
UHHH, MAYBE NEXT TIME!
Mom, Himuro, everyone, I'm sorry...
...but if I stay away from water then nothing will happen to me...

HIMURO...
EVEN TODAY, THE LONG-AWAITED SATURDAY, YOU'RE RUSHING TO GO HOME?
HEY, YUURI!
GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER!
YOU STILL HAVEN'T GIVEN ME AN EXCUSE FOR TURNING ME DOWN!
It should be all right, if it's just the cinema...
I don't have to worry about the snow turning into rain...
OKAY...
S... SORRY, HIMURO.
YOU CAN TAKE ME TO THE MOVIES BY WAY OF APOLOGY.
Really?
That was fun!

YEAH, AND THE SKY CLEARED UP, TOO! I'M GLAD I CAME!
I KNEW YOU'D ENJOY THAT, YUURI.
AAH!
Honestly...
If I don't relax a bit, it'll be like giving up before anything happens.
I was worrying a little too much.
YUURI, IF SOMETHING IS WORRYING YOU....
JUST TELL ME.
HIMURO...
I'LL DEFINITELY PROTECT YOU.

ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
HEY...
I MEAN IT.
BURGERS ARE ON ME!
OKAY THEN!
REALLY, YUURI?
YES... BUT I'M A BIT HUNGRY, HIMURO.
I really can't let myself lose my mind so easily.
That's right...
No matter where I go, there'll always be water around...
YES... I'M VERY HAPPY...
BUT I'M FINE.
YAY!♥

YUURI,
WOULD YOU PREFER MCDONALD'S OR MOS BURGER...
!!

...YUURI?
HEY, WHERE DID YOU GO?!
YUURI!!

This is no joke!
It's almost the 21st century,
how can this be possible!?
I'm being dragged in...
I'm being dragged in!

It hurts...!!
I need to get out, fast!
GASP

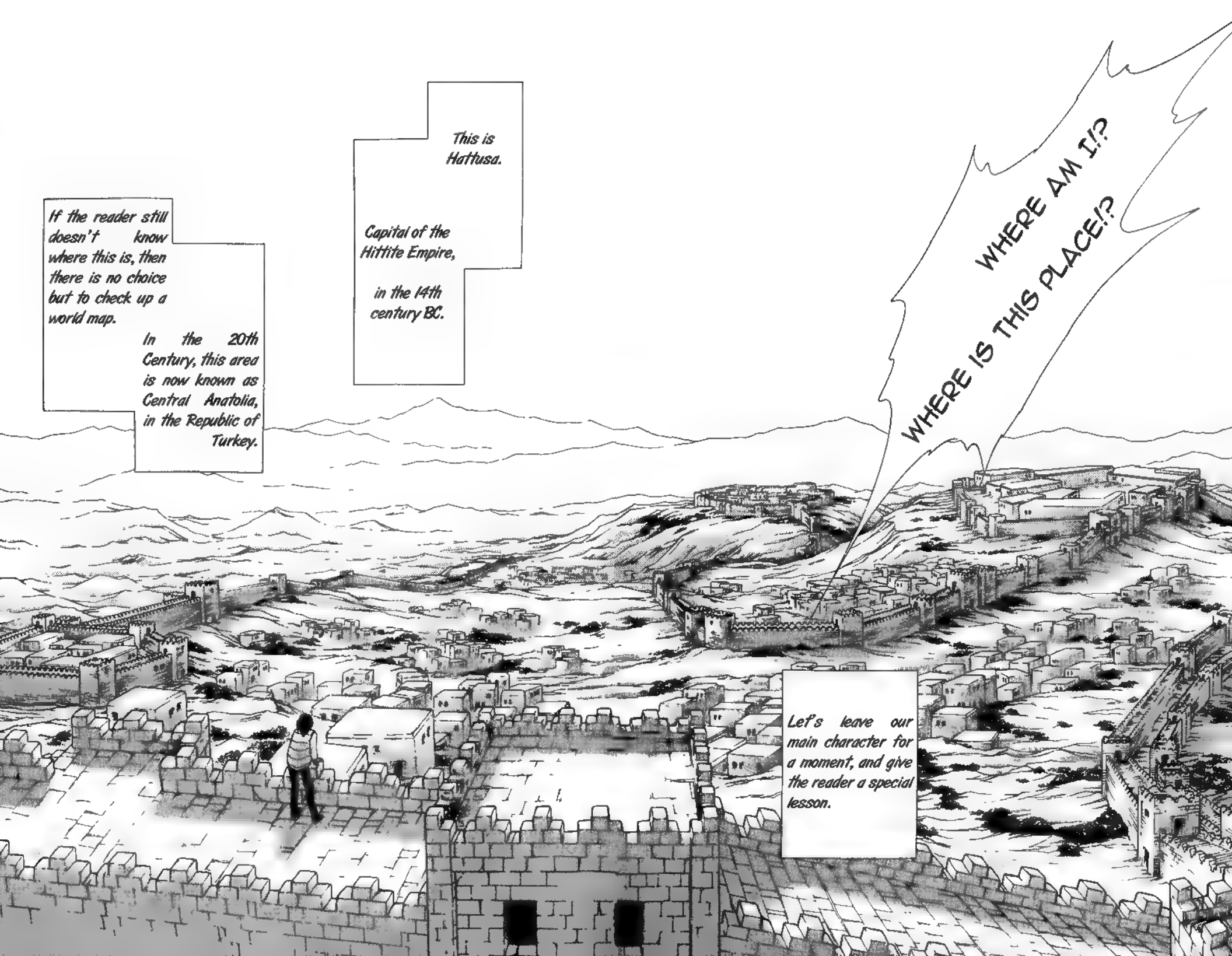
Huh...?

Where
am I?
I don't know this language...
I don't know this place...

I summoned that girl for a reason.
No matter what happens, her blood is needed...
Naturally.
Well, let's call for some soldiers.
The girl will be before you soon, your Highness.
This is truly disappointing.
Just a little bit more and I could have brought you here...
But she is certainly within this kingdom.
She should have arrived in one of the other six springs in the city.
Looks like you got away...

This isn't Japan...
Where's Himuro!?
This isn't my city!!

Where the hell is this place!?
Kii
What would he tell me to do?
.....
wh...


If the reader still doesn't know where this is, then there is no choice but to check up a world map.
In the 20th Century, this area is now known as Central Anatolia, in the Republic of Turkey.
This is Hattusa.
Capital of the Hittite Empire,
in the 14th century BC.
WHERE AM I!?
WHERE IS THIS PLACE!?
Let's leave our main character for a moment, and give the reader a special lesson.

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Powered by Gambit

Remember the book is always better

Artist: Gambit
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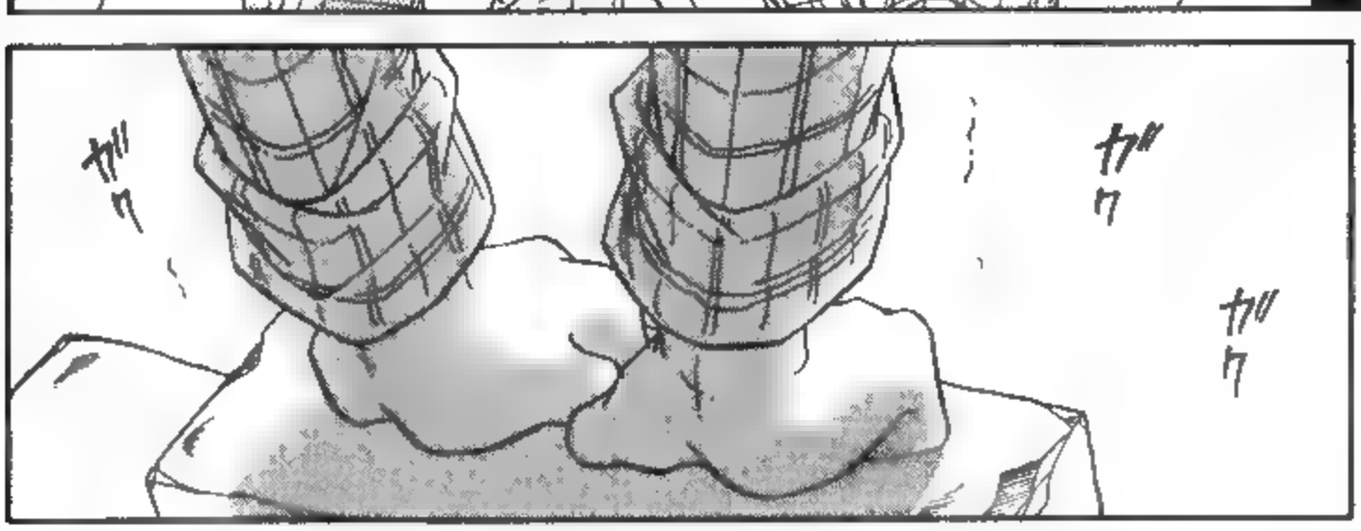
ヒョオオオオ
...NO WAY...
THIS IS ALL JUST A BAD DREAM...
YEAH, THAT'S IT...
IT'S JUST A BAD DREAM...
WHEN I OPEN MY EYES, EVERYTHING WILL BE BACK TO...
..NORMAL...

A distant horizon,
a carpet of greenery...
A red-brown city, surrounded by ramparts...!!



WE'D JUST WATCHED A MOVIE, AND WERE WALKING IN THE PARK...
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
WHAT HAPPENED...?
I WAS... ON A DATE WITH HIMURO...
SOLDIERS?!

カチャ
カチャ
カチャ
I have no idea what's going on...
Where is this place?
...but I get the feeling that I should run away...

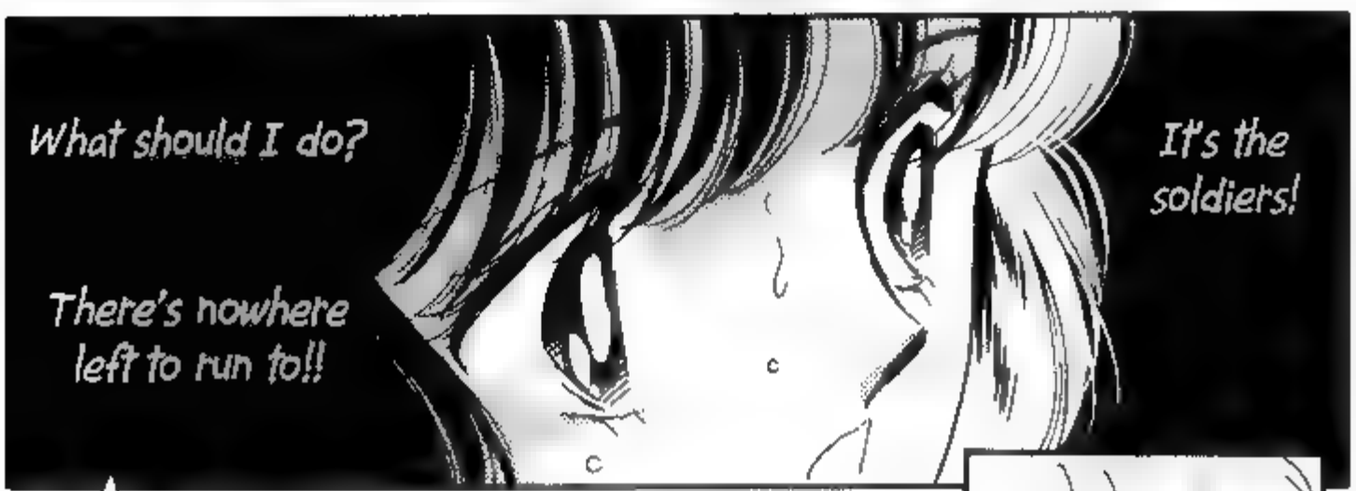
I've caught you, my girl!
That voice I heard when I got sucked into the water...
I don't understand, but I'd better run away!
...the voice felt as cold as ice...

These brick-red clay walls are like a maze...
I don't know where I'm running!
But even so, where should I run to!?
!!

!!
Damn, there are people this way too!
!!

You're not...
a soldier,
are you...?
.....
兵隊じゃない？

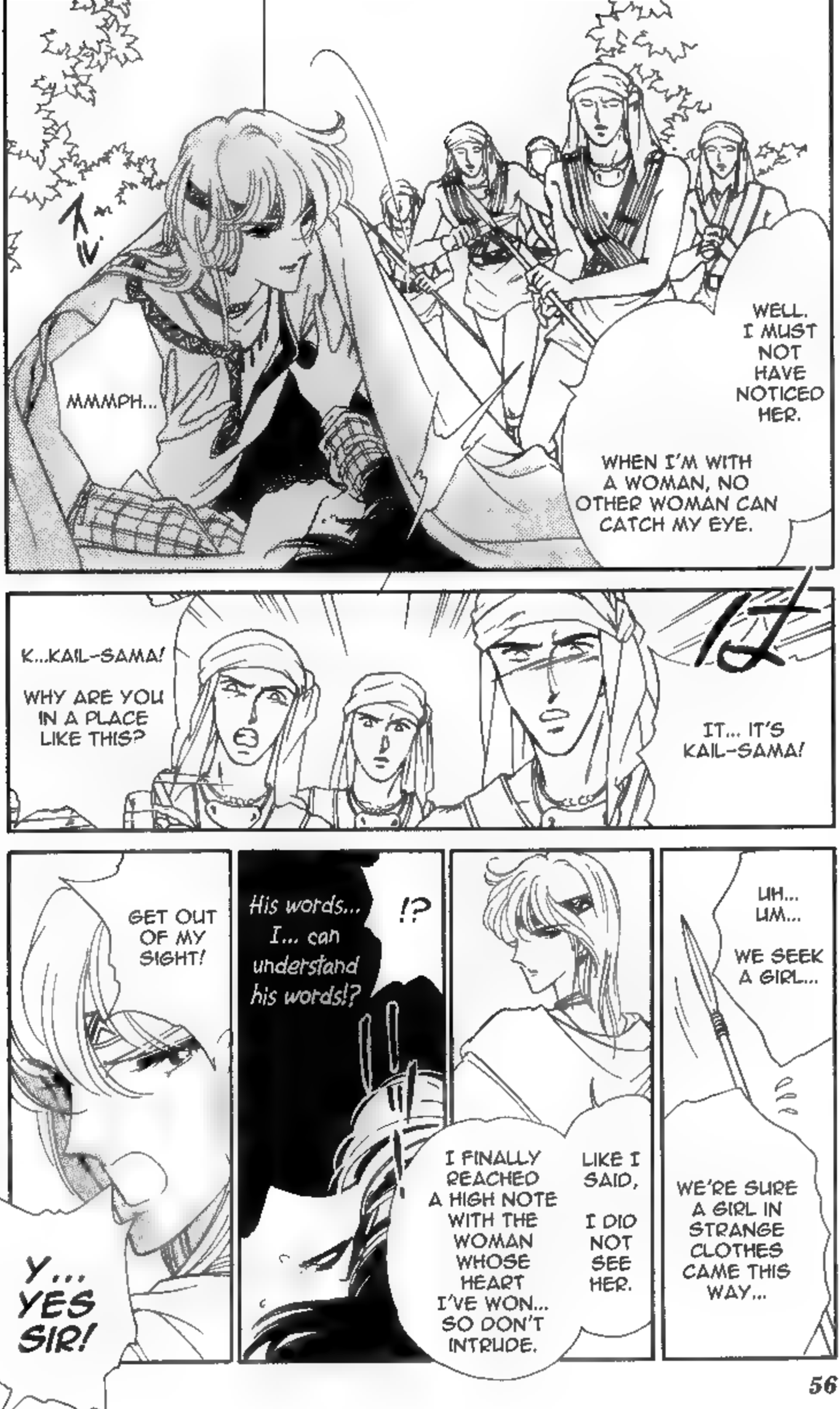
ドドド


What should I do?
There's nowhere left to run to!!
It's the soldiers!

HUH!?
ドドド
What should I do!?
ドドド
.....

WHA...

What...!?
I don't even know this guy... this is nothing like Himuro's gentle kiss...
This hurts...!
HMM?
HEY!
A GIRL CAME THIS WAY.
WHICH WAY DID SHE RUN?
A GIRL?
AAH...


MMMPH...
WELL. I MUST NOT HAVE NOTICED HER.
WHEN I'M WITH A WOMAN, NO OTHER WOMAN CAN CATCH MY EYE.
K...KAIL-SAMA!
WHY ARE YOU IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
IT... IT'S KAIL-SAMA!
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!
Y... YES SIR!
His words... I... can understand his words!?
!?
I FINALLY REACHED A HIGH NOTE WITH THE WOMAN WHOSE HEART I'VE WON... SO DON'T INTRUDE.
LIKE I SAID, I DID NOT SEE HER.
UH... UM... WE SEEK A GIRL...
WE'RE SURE A GIRL IN STRANGE CLOTHES CAME THIS WAY...

YOU CERTAINLY DO LOOK STRANGE.

WHAT COUNTRY ARE YOU FROM?

WHAT DID YOU DO TO GET THE QUEEN'S OWN ARMY CHASING AFTER YOU?

The queen's army...!?

Then that means... this guy saved me?

And also...

why are his words suddenly...!?

No way... was it because of that kiss?
What's with that guy?!
I can't trust anyone!!
IF YOU'RE UNHAPPY THAT I CUT IT SHORT, I DON'T MIND FINISHING IT.
I NEVER LEAVE BUSINESS UNFINISHED WITH A WOMAN.
PERHAPS MY EARLIER ACTIONS ANGERED YOU?
HEY, WAIT!

Why was I brought here!?
I don't understand a single thing!!
How is it that I can suddenly understand their language!?
IT'S HER! OVER THERE!
SHE CAME OUT OF THE SPRING!?
EEK!
IT'S THAT GIRL WHO CAME OUT OF THE SPRING!
I can't trust anyone!!
!!

ZOOO—!
Somebody save me!
Save me, Mama! Papa!
NO...
ALL RIGHT, LET'S TAKE HER TO HER MAJESTY.
NO...
Save me, Himuro!
STOP!

I HAD TO PUT AN END TO IT BEFORE THE UPROAR SPREAD TOO MUCH.
IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LET HER BE SEEN BY THE COMMON FOLK.
That voice!
It's the one that sucked me in!!
Why...?
Why do I have to suffer like this?

YOU... YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CALLED ME!
WELCOME TO HATTUSA.
WHY...!?
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME...
!?
JUST STAY STILL.
I NEED YOUR BLOOD.
I'LL CUT LIKE THIS... RIGHT HERE.
YOUR FRESHLY FLOWING RED BLOOD IS ESSENTIAL.

WHA...
BUT MY SON IS THE YOUNGEST OF THE PRINCES.
2ND PRINCE
IN ORDER TO BECOME THE CROWN PRINCE, THE OLDER PRINCES WILL HAVE TO DIE.
I WANT MY SON, A PRINCE, TO INHERIT THE THRONE.
HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR IS ALREADY AN OLD MAN.
5TH PRINCE
IN ORDER TO MAKE DEATH-CURSE KATASHIRO*, I NEED SACRIFICIAL BLOOD.

* KATASHIRO ARE PAPER IMAGES OR DOLLS TRADITIONALLY USED FOR TRANSFERRING THE SOUL'S IMPURITIES. HERE, THE QUEEN IS MAKING CURSED KATASHIRO

This isn't some kind of Candid Camera prank, is it?
THIS... THIS IS ALMOST THE 21ST CENTURY!
THIS KIND OF THING ISN'T ALLOWED!
21ST CENTURY... IS THAT WHERE YOU'RE FROM?
WELL, THIS IS THE HITTITE EMPIRE.
I AM THE QUEEN OF SUPPILULIUMAS, THE KING OF WATER. THERE IS NOTHING I CANNOT DO.
THE KING OF WATER...?
YOUR HIGHNESS!
A MESSAGE!
HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR IS ON HIS WAY HERE NOW!
I PRAYED TO THE GODS TO GRANT ME A SACRIFICE.
I DIDN'T CARE WHAT COUNTRY THE PERSON WAS FROM. I ASKED FOR THE MOST WORTHY SACRIFICE, AND YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WAS SHOWN TO ME

*SUPPILULIUMAS I WAS THE KING OF THE HITTITES FROM APPROX 1380-1340 BC.

THE EMPEROR..
Maybe the emperor can stop the queen for me!
I CAN'T LET THE EMPEROR KNOW ABOUT ME PLACING DEATH CURSES ON HIS OTHER PRINCES.
PERHAPS NEWS OF THE UPROAR IN THE CITY REACHED HIS EARS.
WHY IS HIS MAJESTY COMING HERE!?
MMPH!!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA!!
IT'S NECESSARY THAT THIS GIRL'S BLOOD MUST FLOW.
WHY IS THAT GIRL HERE IN THE PALACE?
QUEEN.
I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT A GIRL APPEARING FROM A SPRING.

I AM NOT ONLY A QUEEN, BUT I ALSO SERVE AS PRIESTESS OF THE GREAT TEMPLE.
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN, MY LIEGE?
THE SPRING IS IN THE JURISDICTION OF TESHUB'S BLESSED TEMPLE.
IT IS NO COINCIDENCE THAT THIS GIRL HAS COME TO ME.
Save me...!
Please save me...!!
HMM.
SO WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WITH THE GIRL?
Return me...?
WELL, IF INDEED SHE CAME FROM TESHUB...
THEN PERHAPS RETURNING HER WILL BRING PROSPERITY TO THE EMPIRE.
YOU MEAN TO SACRIFICE HER TO TESHUB?
IF THAT IS YOUR WISH,

*TESHUB WAS A WEATHER GOD IN HITTITE MYTHOLOGY

AS YOU WISH.
TAKE THE GIRL TO THE GREAT TEMPLE.
THEN SEND AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CITY THAT WE WILL PERFORM THE RITUAL TOMORROW.
IF THAT IS YOUR DECISION, MY QUEEN, THEN LET IT BE DONE.
This can't be....!!
Nobody...
...is going to save me...
A sacrifice!?
Death curses!?
THAT'S RARE FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR, ISN'T IT?
THERE'S A FESTIVAL AT THE GREAT TEMPLE!
What the hell kind of joke is this!?

I can't believe this is really happening!
BRING OUT THE GIRL!
This is a nightmare!
This is...

What should I...
Kail-sama!
...THE THIRD PRINCE, HIS HIGHNESS KAIL MURSILI, PLEASE BE SEATED.
What do I do?
At the rate things are going, they're really going to kill me!
HIS HIGHNESS, CROWN PRINCE ARNUWANDA, AND...
TABARNA, PLEASE BE SEATED.
Older brother
How is your health?
That man!?

'TABARNA' IS THE EMPEROR'S TITLE, LIKE 'CAESAR' OR 'PHAROAH'. ARNUWANDA II AND MURSILI II WERE SONS OF SUPPILULIUMAS I. ARNUWANDA REIGNED FOR 1 YEAR AFTER SUPPILULIUMAS, AND MURSILI FOR 33 YEARS AFTER THAT. THERE IS NO RECORD OF EITHER OF THEM HAVING FIRST NAMES.

The third prince... is that guy!?
He must be friends with the queen!
O GREAT TESHUB, GOD OF GODS!
I PRAY TO YOU FOR THE BLESSING OF RAIN AND FOR THE FERTILITY OF OUR LAND.
I SEND TO YOU THIS UNTAINTED VIRGIN.

.....
RECEIVE THIS TRIBUTE!
GRANT MY WISH!

Nooo!!
I don't want to die!!

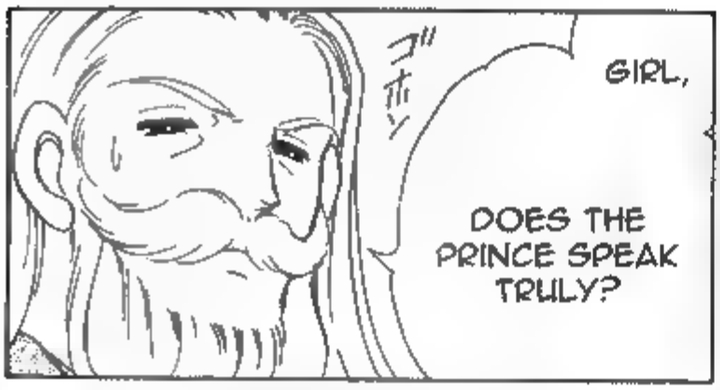
AAGH!
Nooo!!
I don't want to die!!

WHO...
WHO WAS THAT?!
HOW DARE YOU INSULT TESHUB BY INTERFERING WITH THE RITUALS!?

IN FACT, IT WAS QUITE THE OPPOSITE, MOTHER DEAREST.
!?
It's him!
THAT WASN'T AN INSULT AT ALL.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "OPPOSITE"?
IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT YOU ARE ONE OF THE EMPEROR'S SONS! UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, YOUR ACTIONS ARE INEXCUSABLE!
PRINCE KAI!
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO THREW THE GOBLET!?

AH. SO IT IS THAT GIRL.
HUH!?
Let's see...
HOLD ON, MOTHER DEAREST.
I DO NOT WISH TO DECEIVE OUR GOD, SO I INTERVENED.
Wha... What's he going to say?
IT SEEMS I HAVE NO CHOICE...
I MUST CONFESS.
THEN, KNOWING THAT THE TRIBUTE IS IMPURE, AND KEEPING QUIET...
THAT ALSO IS INEXCUSABLE, IS IT NOT?
OF COURSE.
DEAR FATHER, ISN'T PURITY A REQUIREMENT FOR OUR OFFERINGS TO TESHUB?
WHAAAT!?
I HAVE ALREADY MADE THIS GIRL MINE ONCE.
UNAWARE THAT SHE WAS A TRIBUTE, I STOLE HER CHASTITY.
KILL

THAT'S... THAT'S A LIE!
I just summoned that girl to this country yesterday!
AND HOW IS IT THAT YOU CAN BE SO SURE ABOUT THAT, MOTHER DEAREST?
SURELY, EVEN YOU HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN WHAT WE DID YESTERDAY IN THE COOL SHADE OF THE TREES...
hmmm.....?
TH... THAT WAS...
.....
YOU FORCED ME TO...
.....
IF YOU WANT TO KEEP YOUR NECK AND YOUR BODY...
kiss...
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR YOU TO PLAY ALONG?



Even if I did it once with Himuro...

...that was barely my first kiss.

PRINCE KAIL! I WON'T ALLOW THIS SELFISHNESS!
I'LL TAKE HER INTO MY CUSTODY.
THERE-FORE, I'LL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENDERING HER USELESS AS A TRIBUTE.
I WILL MAKE AMENDS TO THE TEMPLE.
I WILL SEND A HUNDRED VIRGIN COWS AND GOATS...
THAT SHOULD COMPLY WITH THE USUAL CUSTOM, RIGHT, FATHER?
YOUR MAJESTY!
YES...

KAIL.
I DON'T CARE THAT YOU'RE A WOMANIZER, BUT PLEASE TRY TO SHAPE UP AND SETTLE DOWN WITH A PROPER PRINCESS.
I AGREE WITH YOU, FATHER.
THERE ARE MORE BEAUTIES IN THIS WORLD THAN THERE ARE STARS...
HOW CAN I DECIDE ON JUST ONE?
...WELL THEN.
But I don't like this either!
I want to go back to Japan!
Am... am I saved...?
And even then, is this where I have been rescued to...?

OH...
THEN...?
THAT'S IT!
I'LL GET TO PRINCE KAIL'S PALACE USING THE 'DARK WATER'!
I NEED THAT GIRL'S BLOOD FLOWING FROM HER NECK!
PRINCE KAIL'S QUICK HANDS ARE WIDELY KNOWN.
PERHAPS, EVEN WITH THAT GIRL...
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!
FOR MY TRUE PURPOSE, THE KATASHIRO, IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER THE GIRL IS PURE OR NOT.

KAIL-SAMA!
WHAT'S THIS!? WHO'S THAT GIRL!?
THE CEREMONY IS OVER. LET'S GO BACK TO THE PALACE.
KIKKURI!
Oh...
IT WAS QUEEN NAKIA AGAIN, PLOTTING AND SCHEMING AND UP TO NO GOOD AS USUAL.
I SPIRITED THIS GIRL AWAY.
...THEN,
THEN...
FRIENDS?
THE QUEEN PROBABLY THINKS I'M THE MOST BOTHERSOME PERSON IN THE WORLD.
YOU... YOU'RE NOT FRIENDS WITH THE QUEEN, ARE YOU?
The queen was up to no good...

THE QUEEN BROUGHT ME HERE!
TAKE ME BACK!!
TAKE ME BACK TO MY HOME!!
THIS IS HATTUSA, RIGHT?
WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THAT!?
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT!
JAPAN?
SHE BROUGHT YOU HERE?
WHERE FROM?
JAPAN!
EGYPT!
THEN... WHAT ABOUT EGYPT?
DO YOU KNOW OF THE MITANNI KINGDOM?
NO.
YES. NOR DO YOU SEEM TO BE FROM THE KASKA TRIBE.
OR FROM KIZZUWADNA EITHER.
YOU MUST BE QUITE THE COUNTRY BUMPKIN IF YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE CAPITAL OF THE HITTITE EMPIRE.

THE KASKA TRIBE WAS AN ENEMY OF THE HITTITES TO THE NORTH. AROUND 1450, KASKA INVASIONS CAPTURED SOME HITTITE TERRITORY. LATER, UNDER SUPPILULIUMAS' RULE, THE HITTITES LED CAMPAIGNS AGAINST THE KASKAS AND OTHER ENEMIES IN ORDER TO REGAIN SOME TERRITORY. THE KIZZUWADNA REGION AT THE TIME WAS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE MITANNI KINGDOM, WHICH CONSISTED LARGELY OF HURRIAN PEOPLE.

I KNOW EGYPT!
IS THAT NEAR HERE?
Isn't Egypt in the Middle East? Is that where I am!?
IT'S NOT NEARBY. EVEN WITH THIS CHARIOT, IT'S 15 TO 16 DAYS AWAY.
BUT JAPAN IS A CITY IN EGYPT?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...
TUTANK...
...HAMEN?
!!
BUT... KAIL-SAMA, EVER SINCE THE LAST PHARAOH TOOK OVER, THE COUNTRY'S BEEN IN A STATE OF DISORDER, HASN'T IT? THERE ARE PROBABLY NEW TOWNS CROPPING UP...
THAT'S TRUE. IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE CURRENT PHARAOH, TUTANKHAMEN.
YOU KNOW OF HIM?
HE'S A BOY KING EVEN YOUNGER THAN I AM.

So where I am now is...
...the Middle East of the past?!
HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
YOU... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
YU...
YUURI...
I SEE. WELL THEN, YUURI.
YOU SAID THAT THE QUEEN BROUGHT YOU HERE, RIGHT?
FOR WHAT PURPOSE WOULD SHE DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I've heard about him...
Tutankhamen!
If I'm not wrong, I read about him in a book.
He was a Pharaoh of ancient Egypt!

SHE... SHE SAID SHE WANTED HER SON TO TAKE THE THRONE...
!!
SO SHE SAID SHE WOULD PLACE DEATH CURSES ON THE OTHER PRINCES...
...AND THAT SHE NEEDS ME FOR KATASHIRO...
This is historical Middle East...!?
This is absurd...!!
I don't believe it...!!
Take me back home!!

...THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO SIT AND CRY.
THAT'S NOT GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING.
ぽつねん
PRINCE KAIL JUST DUMPED ME IN HERE AND THEN RAN OFF AGAIN.
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO MANAGE BY MYSELF.

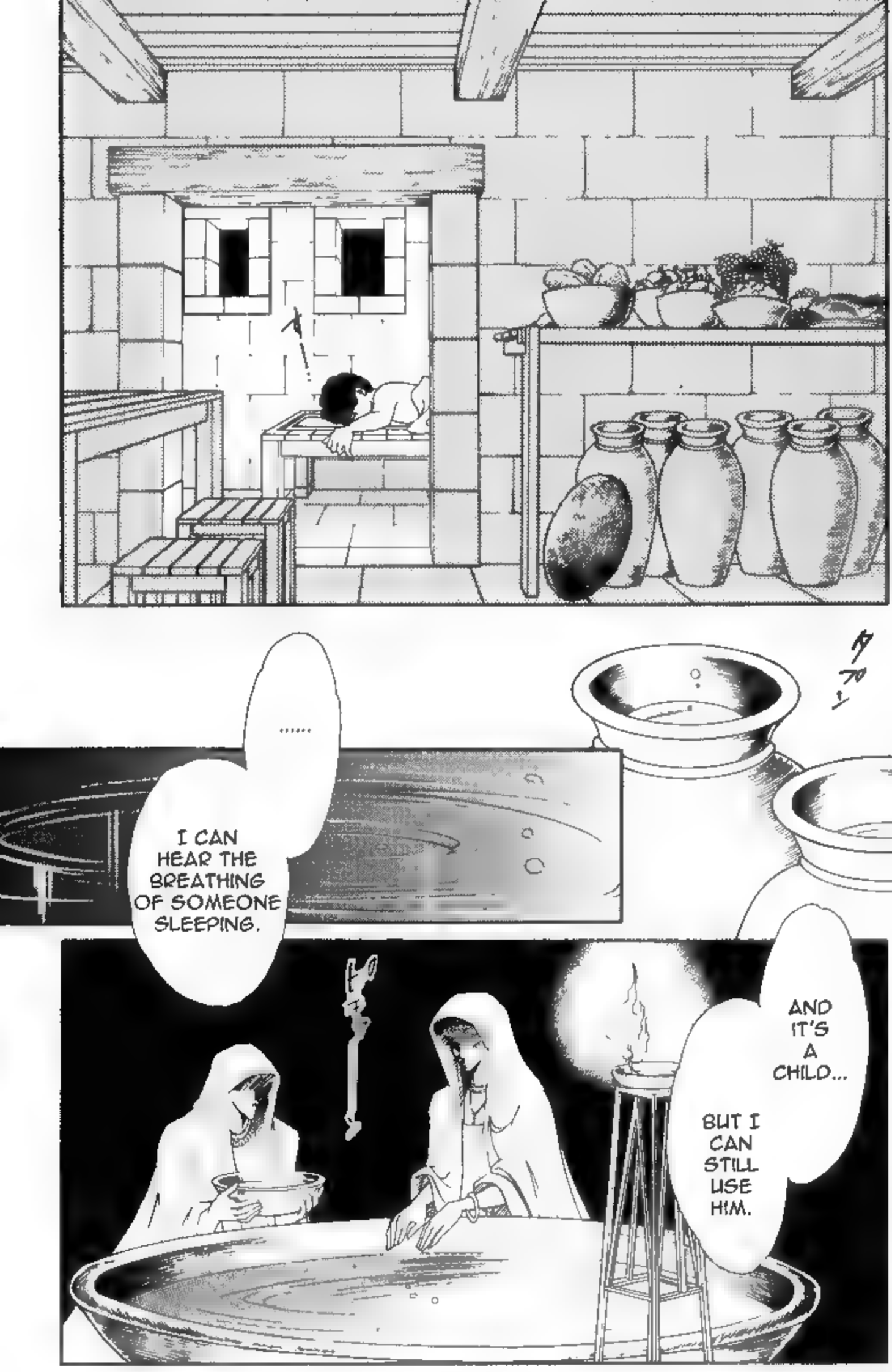
But what on earth can I do to get back home?
It seems like this place doesn't like me too much
There's no way I'll go through that torture a second time.
KNOCK
KNOCK
EXCUSE ME...
I BROUGHT YOUR DINNER...
EIMI!?

MY NAME IS TITO.
KAIL-SAMA ORDERED ME TO LOOK AFTER YUURI-SAMA.
S... SORRY! YOU LOOK LIKE MY LITTLE SISTER...
That's right... there's no way that Eimi could be here...
UH...
WHAT?
A BOY!?
OH YEAH.
A MEAL HAS BEEN PREPARED.
DO YOU LIKE FLOWERS?
I'M QUITE HAPPY ABOUT IT.
I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME KAIL-SAMA HAS BROUGHT A WOMAN HERE.
Me?
YUURI-SAMA?
He talks nonstop...
...just like Eimi.
THANK YOU...

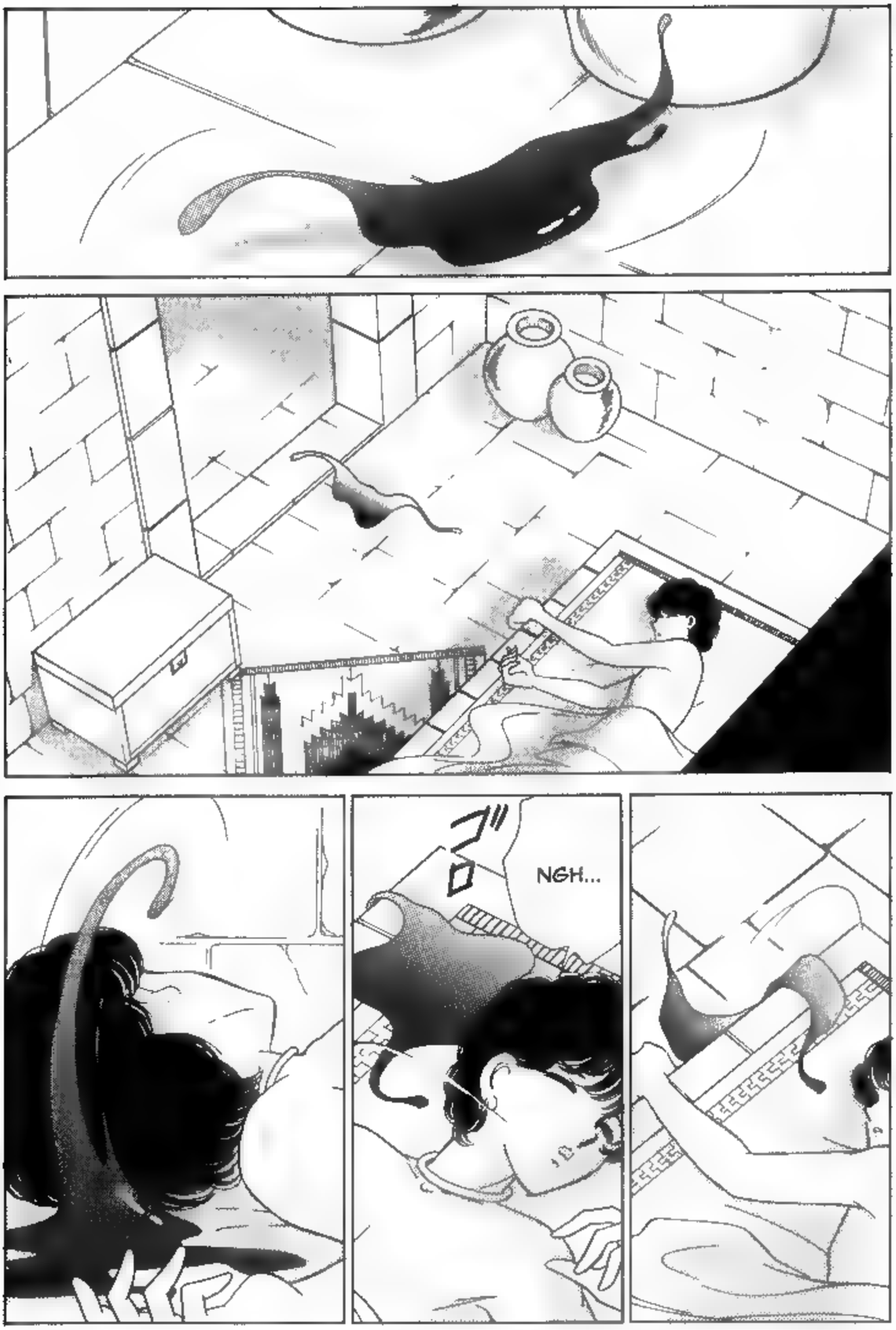
I'm making your bed..
HEY... UM... TITO, RIGHT?
YES?
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
...IF YOU SAY THAT...
THEN IT'S POSSIBLE, ISN'T IT?!
YUURI-SAMA! THAT'S A CRIME!
USING KATASHIRO ON PEOPLE...
PLACING DEATH CURSES ON PEOPLE BY USING A HUMAN SACRIFICE...
IS SUCH A THING REALLY POSSIBLE?
YES, IT SEEMS THAT THE POWERFUL PRIESTS CAN DO IT.
BUT I'VE HEARD THAT THEY USUALLY USE SNAKES FOR CURSING PEOPLE.
That's already enough to be a crime
I THINK THAT IF YOU SACRIFICE A HUMAN, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO TARGET VIRTUOUS PEOPLE, AND NOBILITY.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, SHOULDN'T YOU JUST ASK THE SAME PRIEST AGAIN?
IN GENERAL, I'VE HEARD THAT ONLY THE PERSON HIMSELF CAN UNDO A POWER THAT'S BEEN USED.
YUURI-SAMA?
IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE?
UH, YEAH...
UMM...
WELL...
I MEAN...
SUPPOSE A POWERFUL PRIEST USED THAT POWER TO BRING SOMEONE HERE FROM VERY FAR AWAY...
WHAT SHOULD THAT PERSON DO TO GET BACK HOME?

WELL, MY ROOM IS RIGHT NEXT TO THE KITCHEN.
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST CALL FOR ME.
GOOD NIGHT!
HUH? WHY ARE THERE 6 WATER JUGS HERE?
I ONLY DREW 5 JUGS YESTERDAY.
OH, A WATER MERCHANT CAME BY EARLIER. HE WAS BOASTING ABOUT HIS WATER BEING GOOD AND SWEET, SO I BOUGHT A JUG.
ガラン
HMMM.
WELL THEN, I'LL GIVE IT TO YUURI-SAMA FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!


.....
I CAN HEAR THE BREATHING OF SOMEONE SLEEPING.
AND IT'S A CHILD...
BUT I CAN STILL USE HIM.

トプン
スイ
スルルル
NOW THEN, THIS PERSON...
I'LL MAKE HIM DO THE DIRTY WORK FOR ME...


NGH...

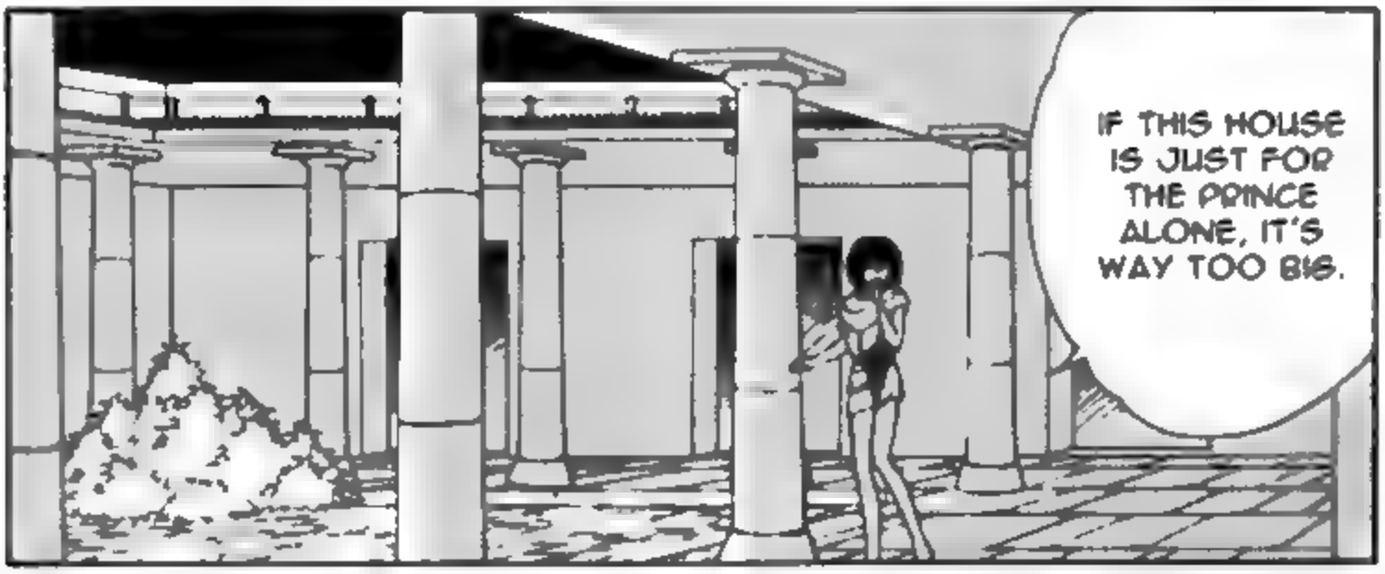
ズズズ
UH...
UM...

キィ

Only the same priest
can undo a used power...

In short, this means
that only that
evil-looking queen
can return me
to Japan, huh.
キュッ
And I know that being
near her is dangerous.
She's the last person
I would want to be near.

WHICH WAY WAS THE GATE AGAIN?
.HM
I ENDED UP IN THIS STRANGE PLACE
!!
But no matter how much I hate it, I'll have to face her again in order to get home.

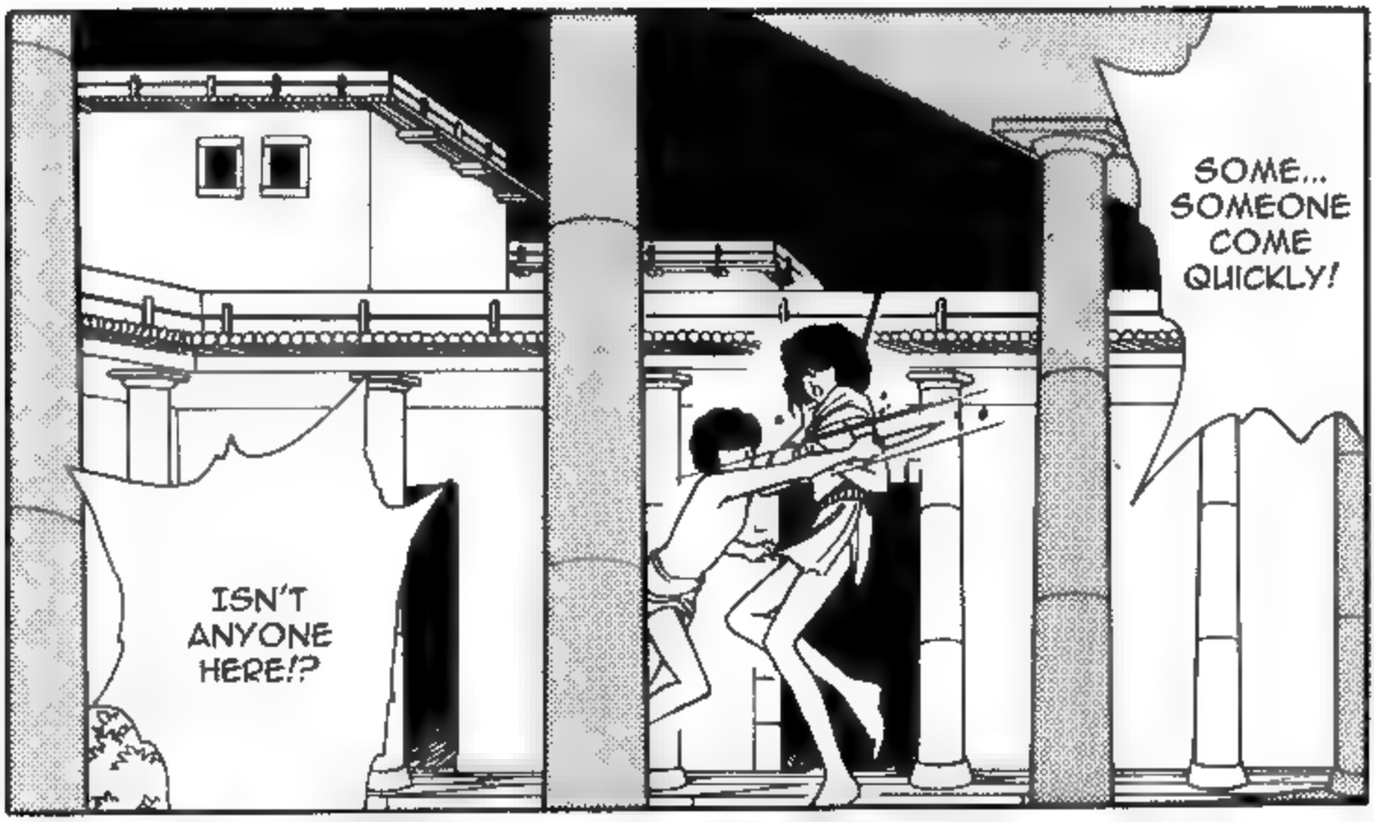

IF THIS HOUSE IS JUST FOR THE PRINCE ALONE, IT'S WAY TOO BIG.

...GEEZ.

AAAGH!!
What the...!?
Why is this...!?
!!

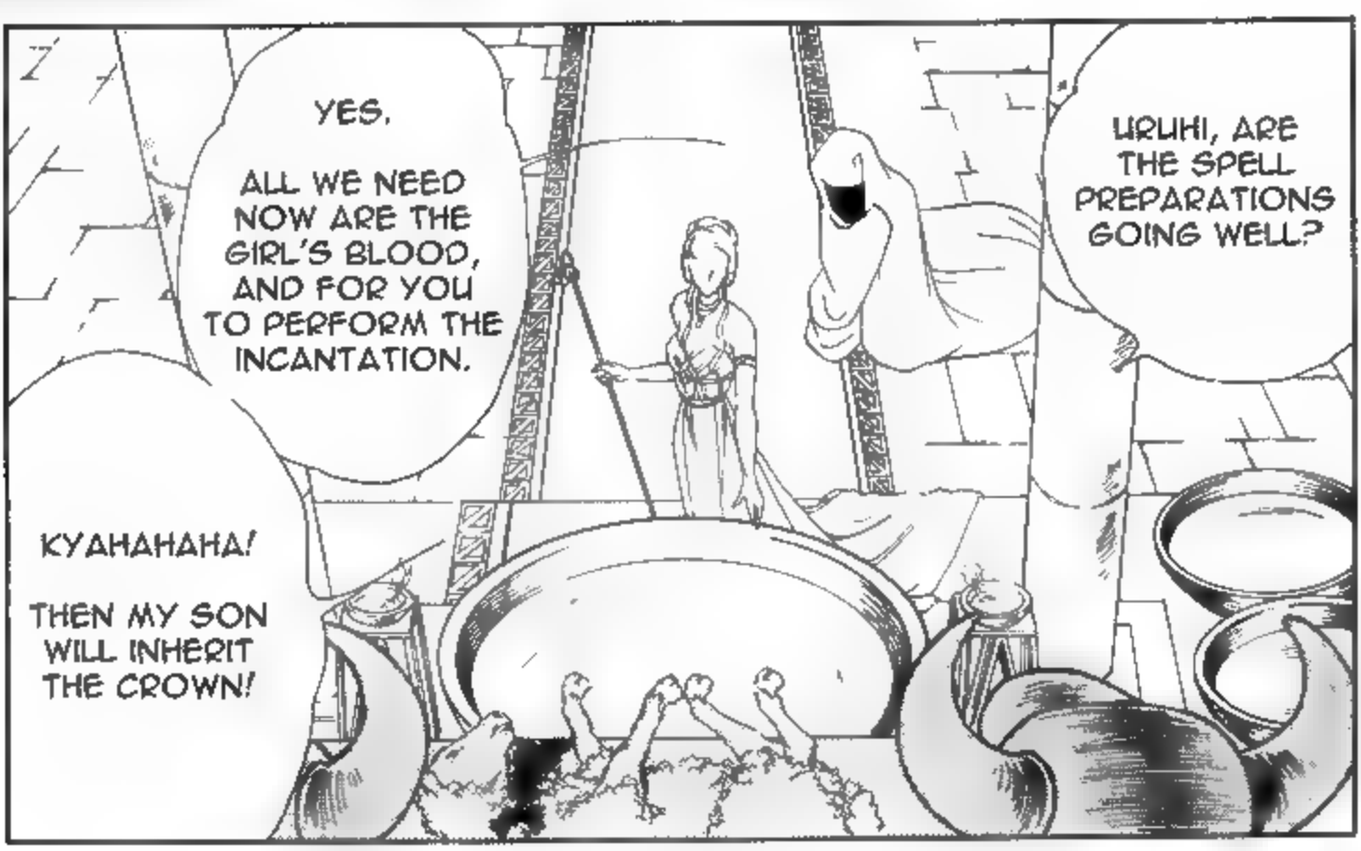
!!!
TI... TO?!
His eye color is different!

AAAH!!
STOP IT, TITO!
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!?
TITO!!


ISN'T ANYONE HERE!?
SOME... SOMEONE COME QUICKLY!

If this is a prince's house, why are there no signs of life?!
Tito!!
Is he really going to kill me!?

TITO!
STOP THIS!!
PRINCE KAIL ONLY KEEPS HIS FAVORITE HANDSERVANT AND A FEW SLAVES IN HIS PALACE.
THANKFULLY THERE'LL BE NO ONE TO INTERFERE.


URUHI, ARE THE SPELL PREPARATIONS GOING WELL?
YES.
ALL WE NEED NOW ARE THE GIRL'S BLOOD, AND FOR YOU TO PERFORM THE INCANTATION.
KYAHAHAHA!
THEN MY SON WILL INHERIT THE CROWN!

NOW, CHILD...
YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL TO ME FOR GRANTING SUCH A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY UPON ONE OF SUCH HUMBLE BIRTH.
MAKE AN OFFERING OF THIS GIRL'S BLOOD TO ME!
This girl...
...kill her!!
TITO!!

KYAA!!
DON'T LET THE GIRL GET AWAY!
YOU USELESS THING!
It's as if someone is controlling him!
He's completely different from before!
What happened to Tito!?

SOMEBODY...
The gate!
I can get outside!

AH...
OW...
TITO!!

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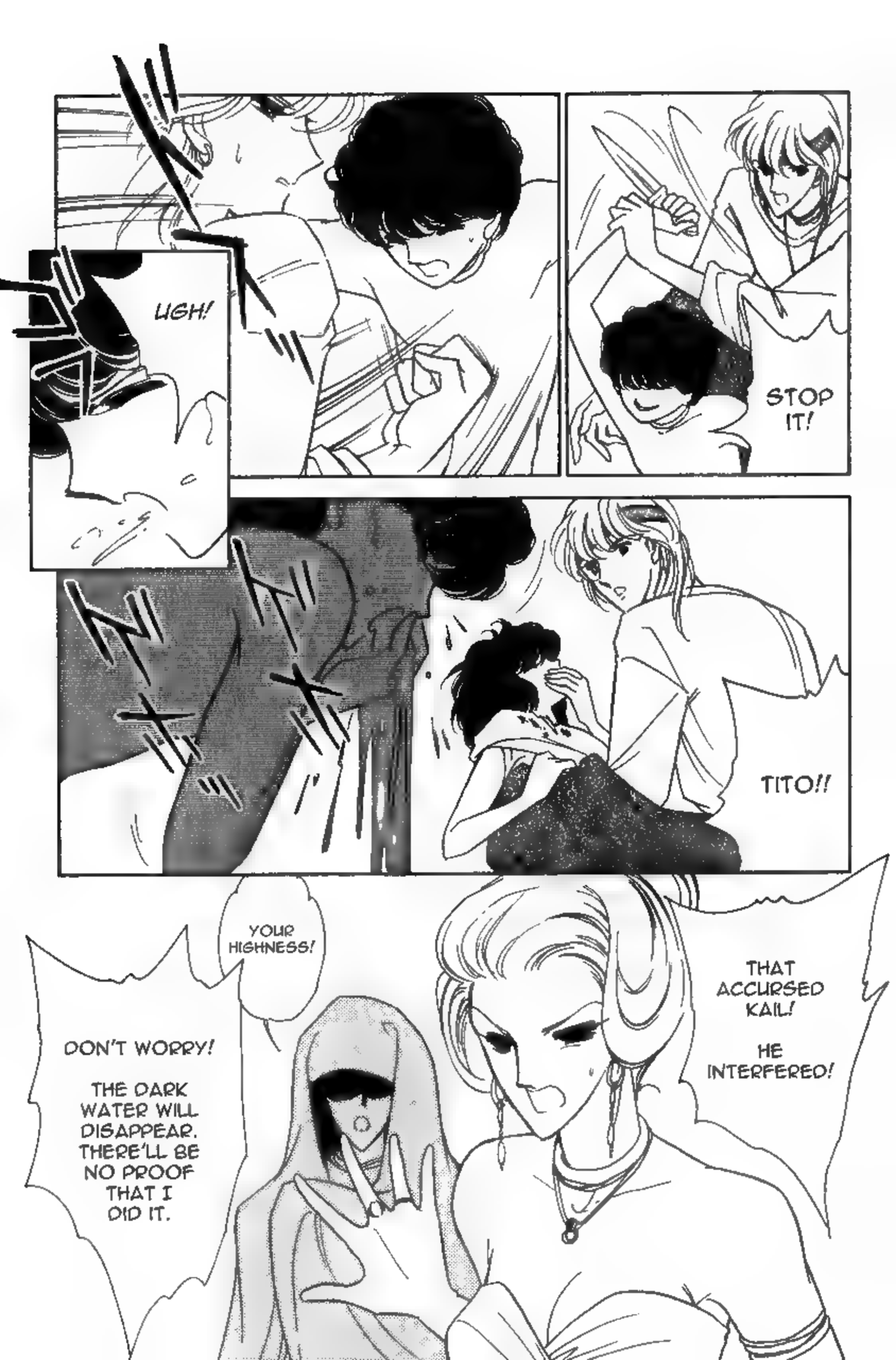

UGH!
STOP IT!
TITO!!
THAT ACCURSED KAIL!
HE INTERFERED!
YOUR HIGHNESS!
DON'T WORRY!
THE DARK WATER WILL DISAPPEAR. THERE'LL BE NO PROOF THAT I DID IT.

KAIL-SAMA...
.....
THAT...! IT'S THE QUEEN'S DARK WATER!
DAMN!
So much is happening...
I don't understand what's going on...
YUURI?
This is an awful place...
I want to go home...
I want to go home...

YUURI!!
WHAT S THE MATTER?
WHAT'S GO.NG ON??

...MMM...
AWAKE ALREADY?
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
M-My.... my clothes!!!
AAAIIIEEE!!

...WHAT'S WRONG?
OH, YOUR WOUND WAS NOTHING MAJOR. I GAVE YOU SOME MEDICINE, SO YOU SHOULD HEAL SOON.
TITO WAS UNDER THE QUEEN'S CONTROL.
I TRIED LOOKING INTO IT A BIT... I'M SURE THE QUEEN IS PLOTTING SOMETHING.

But the Queen's also the only one who can return me to the 20th Century...
What should I do?
Medicine...
Ahh... so you treated me.
It seems that the Queen plans to do whatever it takes to kill me...
Even so, you didn't really have to take all my clothes.

DOES IT HURT?
NO, NOT MUCH.
Thanks to you..

Concubine?
I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS FOR A MAN TO BE WITH A WOMAN...
I DON'T FEEL LIKE TAKING A PROPER PRINCESS YET...
HAVING A SINGLE CONCUBINE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT.
STOP IT!!
WH... WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

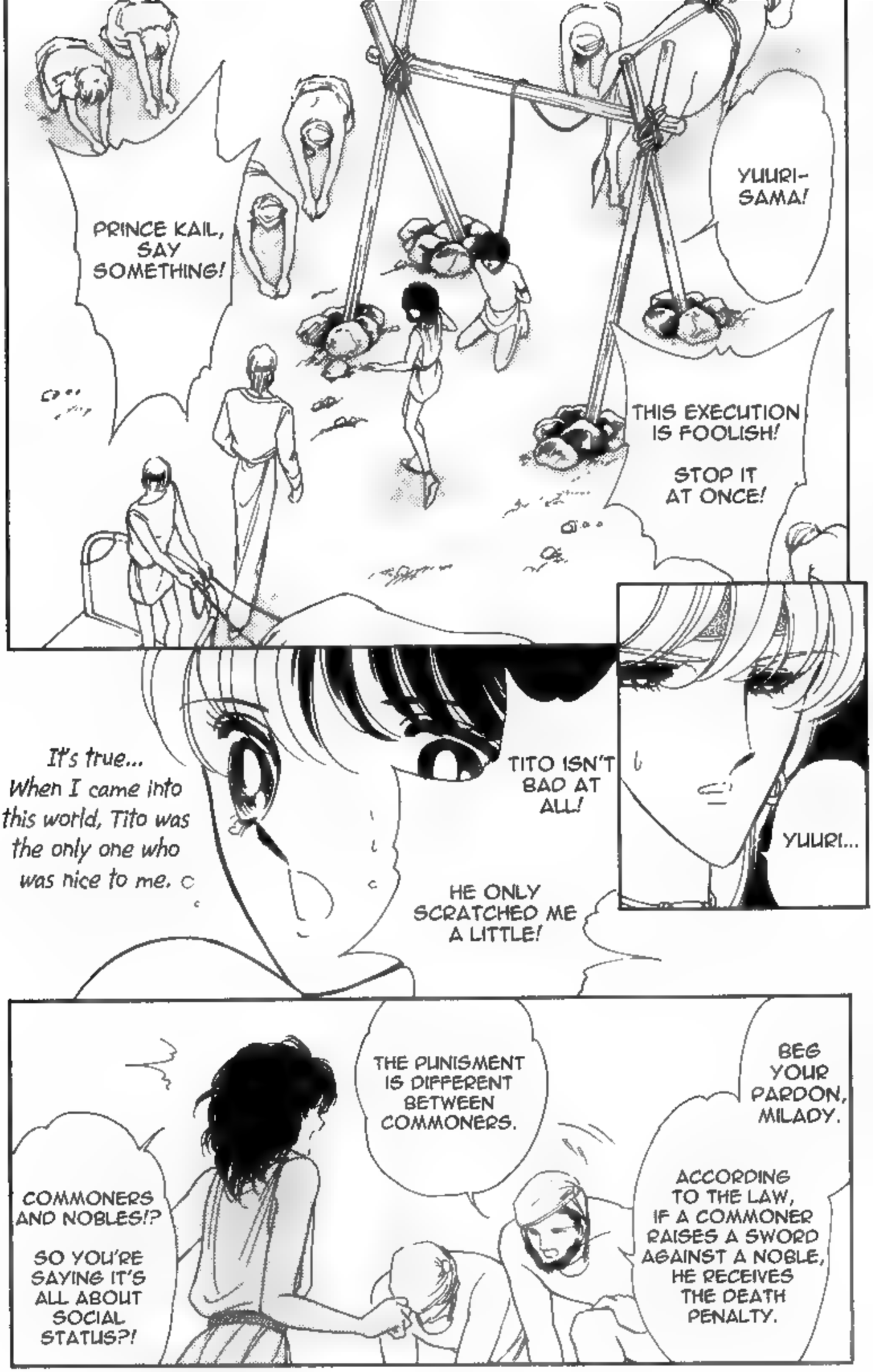
NO...
STOP IT...
ST...
NOOOOOOOO!!!
HINURO!!

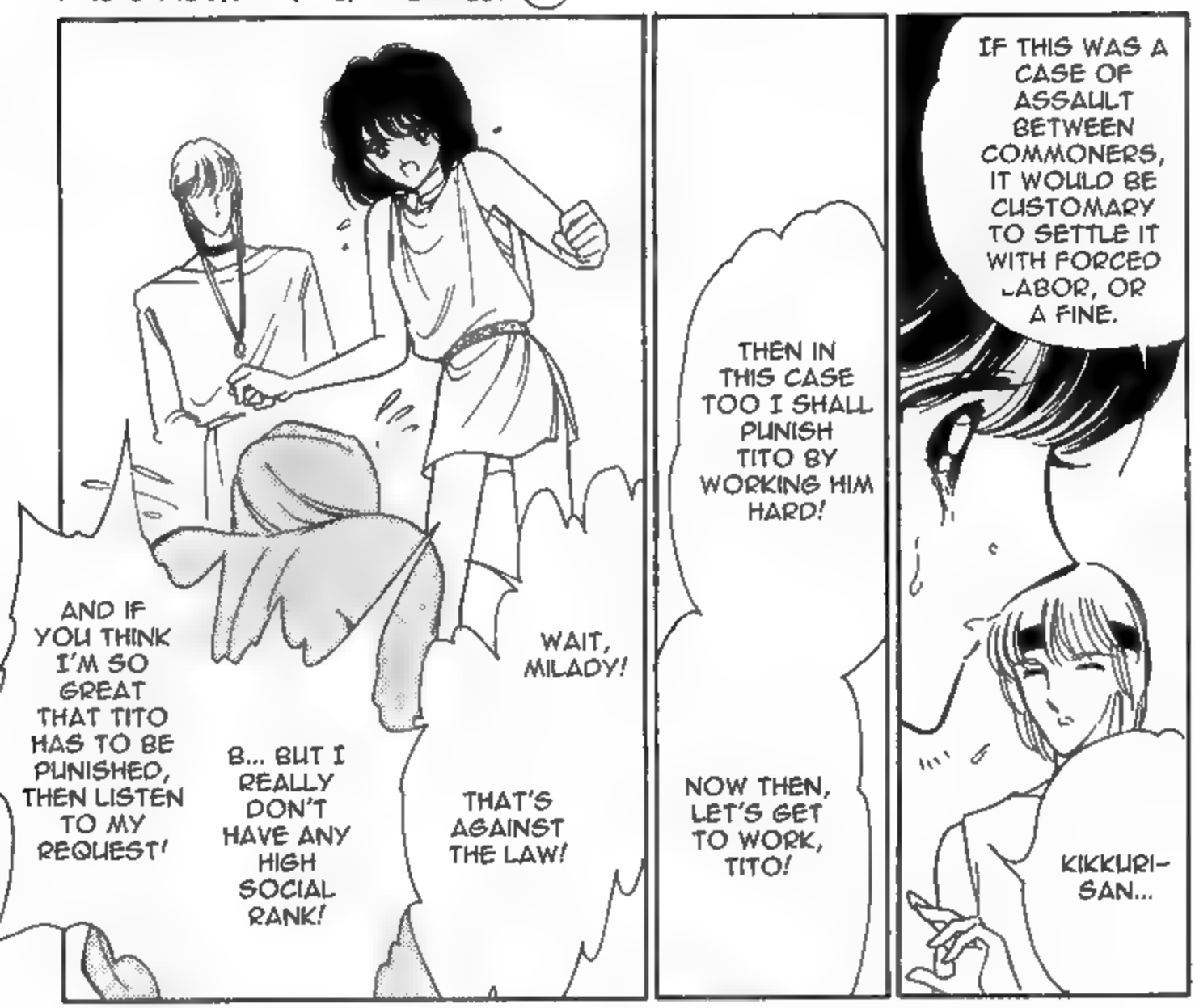
"HIMURO"?
THE BOY I LIKE...
HIMURO IS THE ONE I LIKE! I HATE YOU!

THAT'S THE SIGNAL BELL.
A CHIME?
TITO'S PUNISHMENT IS PROBABLY BEGINNING.
TITO'S PUNISHMENT!?
!?

That's just how it is.
SINCE I TOOK YOU INTO MY PALACE, YOU ARE NOW RECOGNIZED AS A QUEEN.
BUT TITO WAS BEING CONTROLLED BY THE QUEEN!
THE LAW DECREES THAT ANYONE WHO TRIES TO KILL A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY WILL FACE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.
WHY IS TITO BEING PUNISHED?
BUT EVEN I CAN'T CHANGE THE LAW.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO DIE, EITHER.
THERE'S NO PROOF!
YOU IDIOT!!
OW!!
.....
WHERE IS THE EXECUTION GROUNDS?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO THINK LIKE THAT, IS IT?!

HE TRIED TO KILL A MEMBER OF THE ROYAL FAMILY!
THAT'S PRETTY STUPID.
ISN'T HE STILL JUST A CHILD?
WHAT'S HIS CRIME?
ALRIGHT, NOW PULL!
PUT THE NOOSE AROUND HIS NECK!
WAIT!!
HALT THE EXECUTION!


PRINCE KAIL, SAY SOMETHING!
YUURI-SAMA!
THIS EXECUTION IS FOOLISH!
STOP IT AT ONCE!
It's true... When I came into this world, Tito was the only one who was nice to me.
TITO ISN'T BAD AT ALL!
HE ONLY SCRATCHED ME A LITTLE!
YUURI...
COMMONERS AND NOBLES!?
SO YOU'RE SAYING IT'S ALL ABOUT SOCIAL STATUS?!
THE PUNISMENT IS DIFFERENT BETWEEN COMMONERS.
BEG YOUR PARDON, MILADY.
ACCORDING TO THE LAW, IF A COMMONER RAISES A SWORD AGAINST A NOBLE, HE RECEIVES THE DEATH PENALTY.


AND IF YOU THINK I'M SO GREAT THAT TITO HAS TO BE PUNISHED, THEN LISTEN TO MY REQUEST!
B... BUT I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANY HIGH SOCIAL RANK!
WAIT, MILADY!
THAT'S AGAINST THE LAW!
THEN IN THIS CASE TOO I SHALL PUNISH TITO BY WORKING HIM HARD!
NOW THEN, LET'S GET TO WORK, TITO!
IF THIS WAS A CASE OF ASSAULT BETWEEN COMMONERS, IT WOULD BE CUSTOMARY TO SETTLE IT WITH FORCED LABOR, OR A FINE.
KIKKURI-SAN...

YUURI!
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE IMPERIAL AUTHORITY FOR YOUR PERSONAL AFFAIRS!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
DOESN'T THE CASTE SYSTEM EXIST SO THAT THE NOBLES WILL PROTECT THE COMMONERS!?
IF THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO USE AUTHORITY, THEN *WHEN* IS?!

.....
I SEE.
Y... YOUR HIGHNESS!
WHA...!?
WELL THEN. LET'S TAKE TITO HOME.
YECH!
CHU
IT'S SIMPLE, REALLY.
MY FAVORITE MISTRESS IS BEING A BIT UNREASONABLE, ISN'T SHE?
WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO OPPOSE HER THIS TIME.

KIKKURI.
BRING TITO HERE.
YES, MY LORD.
YOUR HIGHNESS, PLEASE WAIT!
SHOULD ANY PROBLEMS ARISE, YOU WILL FIND ME AT MY PALACE.
I WILL ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY.
I...
I...

The only thing I want is to go back to the 20th century...
THANK YOU... BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT...
JUST TELL ME AND I'LL DO ANYTHING!
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU, YUURI-SAMA!
YUURI-SAMA...
I THOUGHT KAIL-SAMA WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LET ME DIE...
EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE NOW, TITO.
LET'S GO HOME.

But if the Queen is the only one who can do it, there's no point in asking someone else...
HOW COME ONLY PRIESTS CAN UNDO THEIR OWN POWERS?
HUH?
ANY PRIEST WITH AN EQUAL ABILITY CAN UNDO ANOTHER'S POWER.

SHE'S ONE OF THE BEST!
THERE ARE ONLY A VERY FEW IN THIS EMPIRE...
SO THERE ARE!!
THE QUEEN...!?
R-R-R... REALLY?!
THEN IS THERE A PRIEST WHO CAN EQUAL THE QUEEN?
MY LORD IS RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES, ISN'T HE?
OF COURSE THERE ARE.
ONE SUCH STANDS IN YOUR PRESENCE NOW.
!!
He said "my Lord"...
He can't possibly mean...

PRINCE KAIL!!
This guy can send me back to the 20th Century!
IS IT SUCH A BAD THING FOR ME TO BE A PRIEST?

DEPENDING ON THE MAGE, THE POWER CAN BE USED FOR "RIGHT" OR "WRONG", SO IT'S NECESSARY TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT IT.
A PRIEST'S POWER FAR SURPASSES THAT OF AN ORDINARY HUMAN.
IT'S MAGIC.
I DON'T NEED A LECTURE ABOUT MAGIC.

I WANT TO KNOW...!
...IF YOU CAN SEND ME BACK TO WHERE I CAME FROM!?
PLEASE JUST GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT!
THAT'S WHY I'M EXPLAINING IT TO YOU STEP BY STEP.
WHAT AN IMPATIENT LITTLE BRAT.
If Prince Kail can undo the Queen's magic...
...then he can send me back to the 20th Century!
Please say you can send me back.

FIRSTLY,
THE SEVEN SPRINGS IN HATTUSA MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED.
ONE MORE THING?
IN THIS CURRENT SEASON, THE SPRINGS ARE FULL WHEN THE MORNING STAR SHINES IN THE EASTERN SKY, SO YOU SHOULD WAIT FOR THEN.
AND ONE MORE THING...
WHETHER THE QUEEN DOES IT OR I DO,
IN ORDER TO RETURN YOU FROM WHENCE YOU CAME, YOU HAVE TO BE IN THE SAME CONDITION YOU WERE WHEN YOU ARRIVED.
Geez
IF YOU WANT ME TO CUT TO THE CHASE...
...I WILL.
So sit quietly for a bit!
THAT'S WHY I'M EXPLAINING IT TO YOU STEP BY STEP!
HOW WILL YOU DO IT?!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
HURRY AND SEND ME BACK!

OH!
YOU ALSO NEED THE CLOTHES YOU WERE WEARING WHEN YOU FIRST ARRIVED IN THIS COUNTRY.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?
I SUPPOSE THAT'D BE THOSE STRANGE GARMENTS YOU HAD ON WHEN WE FIRST MET.
I HAD TO CHANGE MY CLOTHES THERE!
THAT'S WHERE THEY ARE!
THAT'S IT! THE GREAT TEMPLE!
Now that you mention it... where are those clothes?
I... I was being taken by the Queen to be sacrificed...
THE GREAT TEMPLE?

I... can go back home!
A day when the Seven Springs are full, the clothes I wore when I came from the 20th century, and Prince Kail...
If I can get these three things together, I can really go back home!

I'M GOING TOO!
YES, MY LORD.
KIKKURI.
GO AND FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CLOTHES.
FINE, THEN! YOU PRINCE OF MEANIES!
YOU CAN'T JUST RECKLESSLY GO WHEREVER YOU LIKE.
Didn't you learn anything from last night?
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOUR HEAD, BE A GOOD GIRL AND STAY HERE.
BESIDES HAVING MAGICAL POWERS, THE QUEEN IS SECOND ONLY TO THE EMPEROR IN TERMS OF RANK AND AUTHORITY.

...Now that he mentions it, it's true that...
Since I came here, Prince Kail has always been rescuing me...
And this morning, when I told them there's someone I already like, he stopped...
DON'T WORRY. NO MATTER WHAT, HER HIGHNESS THE QUEEN'S REACH DOES NOT EXTEND INTO THIS PLACE.
PRINCE KAIL WILL SURELY PROTECT US.
TITO...
.....

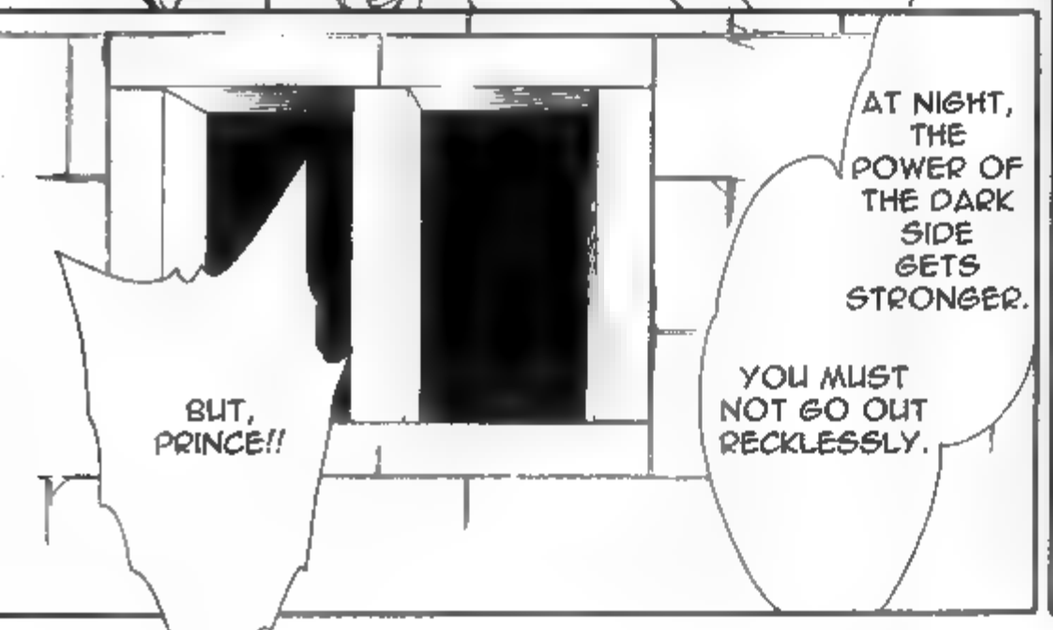
In that case, Prince Kail's probably not a bad person...
...and on my part I'm always just yelling at him...
PRINCE KAIL...
...ARE YOU THERE?

UHM... I...
OH, IS THAT YOU, YUURI?
PERFECT TIMING. I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO AND CALL YOU.
HERE. EAT.
THEY'RE SWEET AND TASTY! ♡
THEY ARE, AREN'T THEY?
HONEY-PICKLED JUJUBES.
BUT IF I EAT THESE, I'LL GET FAT.
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE FOR.
!?
YOU'RE TOO SKINNY.
I PREFER MY WOMEN PLUMP.
So don't worry and just get fat

Right now both your breasts can fit one hand... it's not even a handful.
I'D LIKE YOUR BREASTS TO GROW TO FIT THIS HAND AT LEAST.
YOU'RE NOT TOO BAD FOR A CHILD.
WAIT TILL YOU HIT PUBERTY AT 15 OR 16.
I'M 15 THIS YEAR!
ME... ME TOO!
...!!!
I THOUGHT SHE WAS 12 OR 13!
GEEZ! WHAT A PERV!
IN ANY CASE I DON'T PLAN TO STICK AROUND THAT LONG!
OH!
St... stupid prince!
Because of that, I didn't get to say "Thank you"...

YES.
SEVERAL OTHER PRIESTS SAID THEY SAW HER.
WHAT!?
THE QUEEN TOOK YUURI'S CLOTHES AWAY, YOU SAY!?

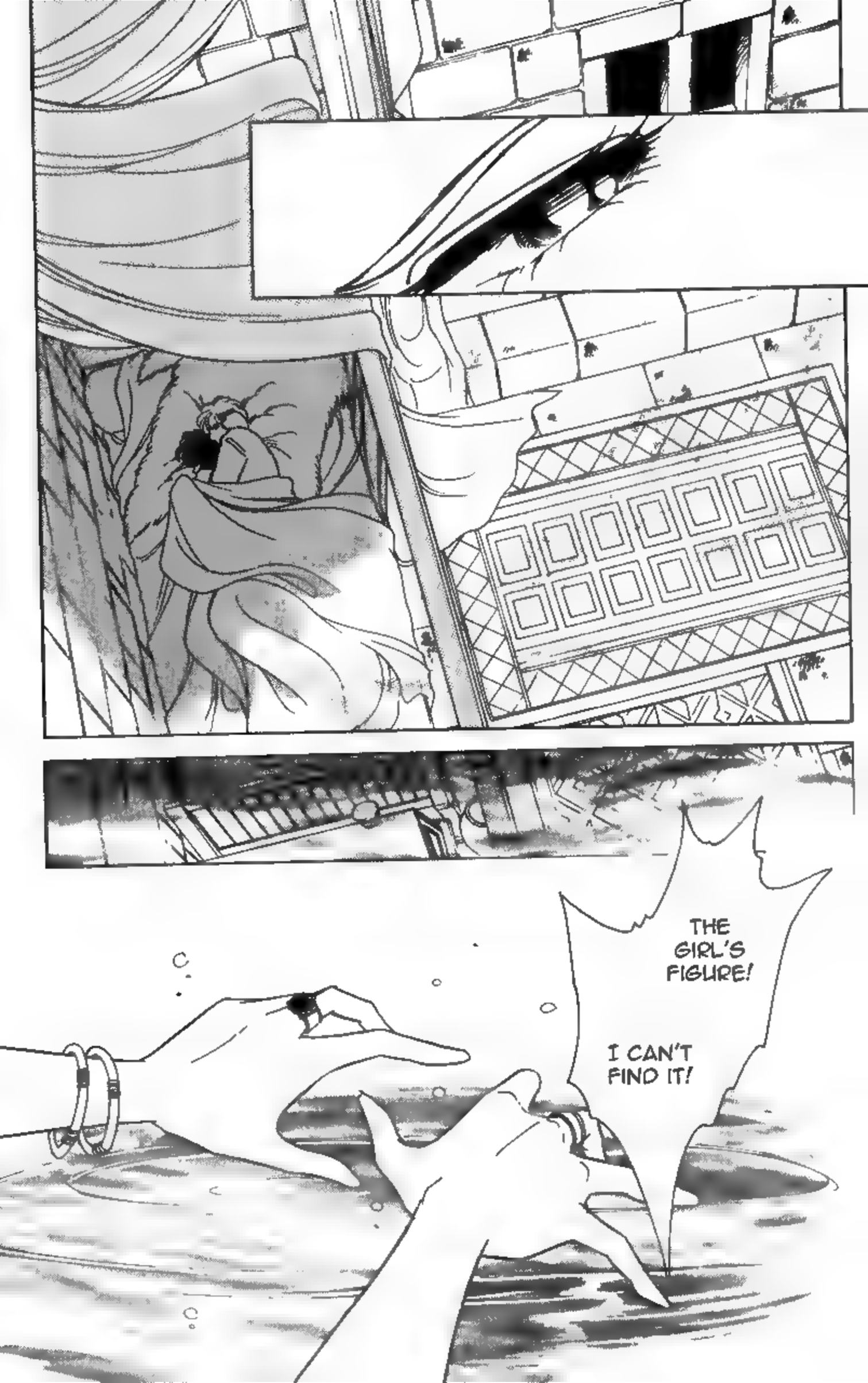
I'M GOING THERE RIGHT AWAY!
I TOLD YOU TO WAIT.


AT NIGHT, THE POWER OF THE DARK SIDE GETS STRONGER.
YOU MUST NOT GO OUT RECKLESSLY.
BUT, PRINCE!!

IT'S THE QUEEN'S TRAP.
!!
I'M NOT JUST SOME UNRELATED PERSON IN THIS MATTER.
IF YOUR HEAD GOES, THE LIVES OF THE OTHER PRINCES AND I WILL LIKELY BE FORFEIT AS WELL.
UNTIL WE CAN PLAN OUT A COURSE OF ACTION, BE A GOOD GIRL.
.....
FINE.
I feel bad about doing this to the Prince, but I've had enough.
Once everyone's asleep, I'm getting my clothes!

But...
THERE ARE PLENTY OF EMPTY ROOMS IN THIS PALACE!
WHY DO I HAVE TO SLEEP WITH YOU!?
WHY!?
I DON'T WANT EVERYONE TO KNOW.
I HAVE A REPUTATION AS THE GREATEST PLAYBOY IN HATTUSA.
AND I STILL HAVEN'T LAID A HAND ON YOU.
If I'm with the Prince, I won't be able to sneak out!
TH... TH... TH... THAT'S...

GOOD NIGHT.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT IT LIKE THAT,
THEN FINE. I'LL "SLEEP" WITH YOU.
It... it's all right.
If that's how it is, then I'll just wait until the Prince is asleep.
EEK!


THE GIRL'S FIGURE!
I CAN'T FIND IT!

PRINCE KAIL IS CONSTANTLY BY HER SIDE, SO I CAN'T GET HER ALONE.
YES... WHAT A BOTHER.
SHE'LL NEED THESE CLOTHES IF SHE WANTS TO GO BACK TO WHERE SHE CAME FROM.
THAT'S WHY SHE'LL SURELY WANT TO GET THEM BACK.
AND KAIL IS STOPPING HER!
THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY TO GET HER WITHOUT LURING HER OUT OF THE PRINCE'S PALACE!

SHE PLANS TO COME HERE.
WE SHOULD PREPARE A WARM WELCOME FOR HER, SHOULDN'T WE, LIPLIM!?
YES, MY QUEEN
HOW CAN IT BE?
HM?
I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THE GIRL'S FIGURE
I SEE
THE GIRL LEFT THE PRINCE'S SIDE ON HER OWN.

And when I do, you'll send me back to the 20th century, won't you?
I'm sorry, Prince Kail.
But I'll definitely get those clothes back.

TITO!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT! KAIL-SAMA TOLD YOU TO WAIT, DIDN'T HE?
I KNEW IT! YOU'RE PLANNING TO GO TO HER MAJESTY'S PALACE, AREN'T YOU?
YUURI-SAMA!
PLEASE! I HAVE TO GO!
YUURI-SAMA!
I HAVE TO GO.
NO MATTER WHAT, I NEED THOSE CLOTHES!
FINE. I GET IT.
THEN I'M GOING TOO.

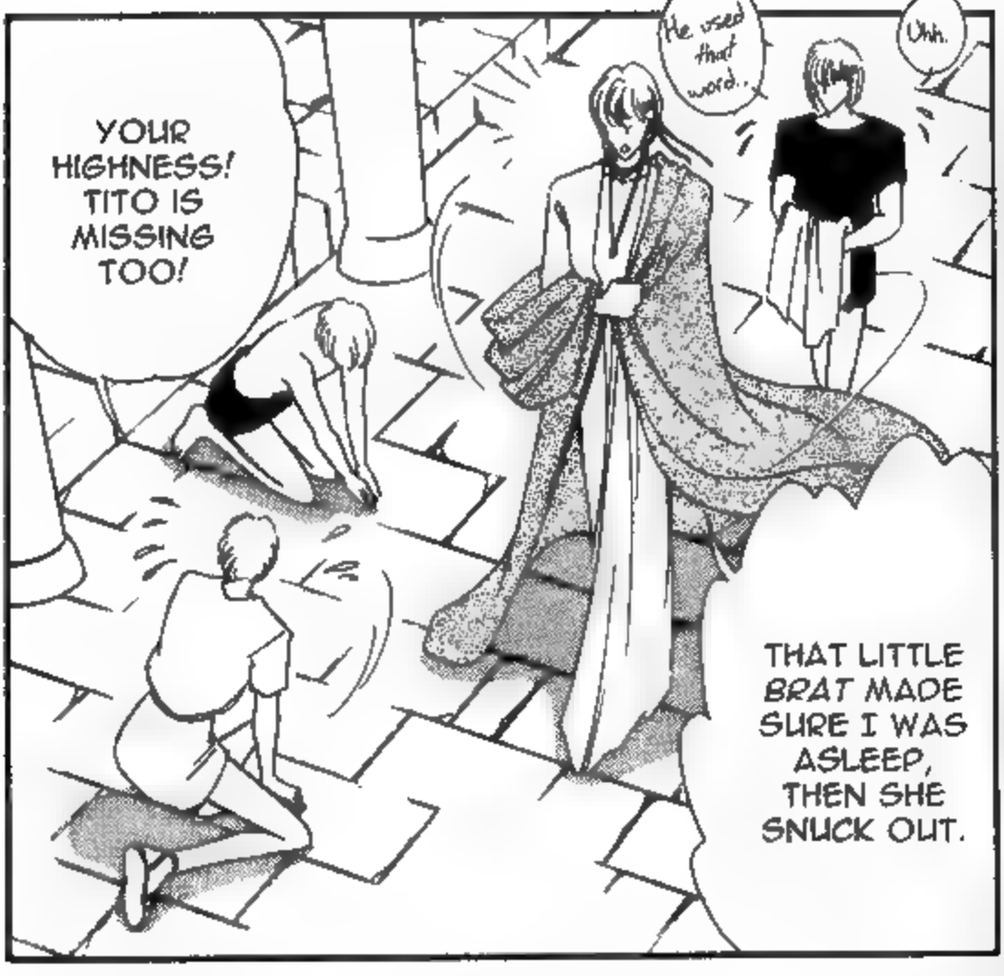
UMM...
Here, take the sandals. And a dagger, just in case.
FIRST THINGS FIRST, YUURI-SAMA.
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHERE HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S PALACE IS?
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TOO.
THANK YOU.
DIDN'T I ALREADY SAY IT?
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU, YUURI-SAMA.
.ARE YOU SURE?
TITO, YOU HAVE OLDER SISTERS?
YES. THREE OF THEM.
BUT THE WAY YOU TALK BACK TO KAIL-SAMA IS AMAZING!
MY OLDER SISTERS SAY THAT WHEN THEY SEE KAIL-SAMA'S FACE, THEY'RE AT A LOSS FOR WORDS.

THAT HUGE PALACE ON THE HILL!

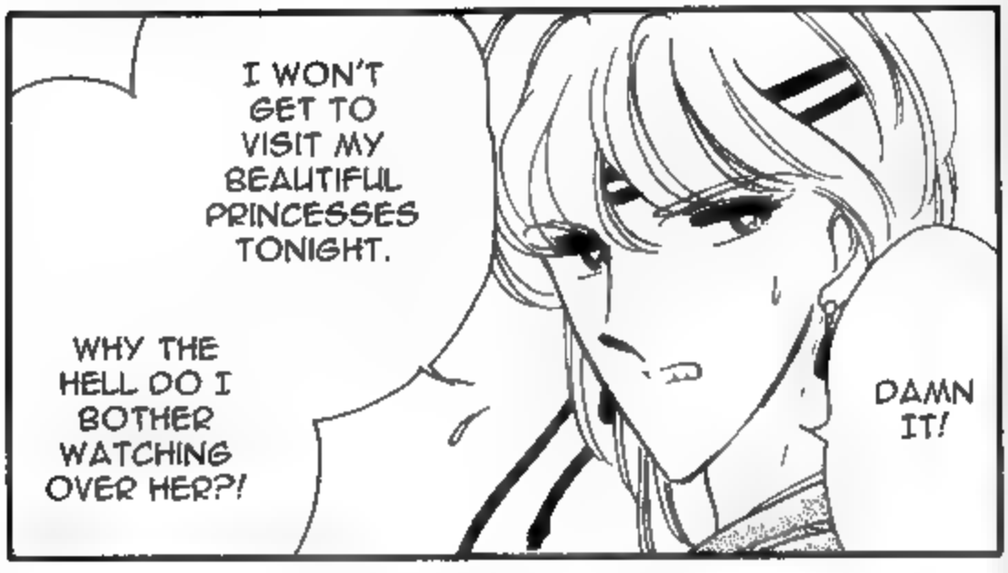
WHEN I LEFT HOME, MY SISTERS GAVE THIS TO ME.
THIS CHOKER.

LOOK, MY NAME IS ENGRAVED ON IT.

YES.
OVER THERE IS THE QUEEN'S PALACE.
YOUR SISTERS ARE NICE, AREN'T THEY?


He used that word...
Uhh.
YOUR HIGHNESS! TITO IS MISSING TOO!
THAT LITTLE BRAT MADE SURE I WAS ASLEEP, THEN SHE SNUCK OUT.

THAT IMPUDENT BITCH!


I WON'T GET TO VISIT MY BEAUTIFUL PRINCESSES TONIGHT.
WHY THE HELL DO I BOTHER WATCHING OVER HER?!
DAMN IT!

BUT KAIL-SAMA...
YOU SEEM TO ENJOY BEING WITH YUURI-SAMA MORE THAN ANY OTHER PRINCESS.

WHAT!?
ME!?
DON'T... DON'T SAY SUCH STUPID THINGS! GATHER MY TROOPS, KIKKURI!
DON'T USE HORSES.
WE'D WAKE THE ENTIRE CITY.
YUURI PROBABLY WENT TO THE QUEEN'S PALACE.
WE'LL BRING HER BACK BEFORE SHE GETS CAUGHT.
YES, SIR!

...THE BACK DOOR.
IT'S OPEN, HUH...
YEAH... IT IS.
YUURI-SAMA...
WHY DON'T WE GO BACK HOME?
GOING RIGHT IN...
YOU'VE GOT SOME GUTS.
I've never heard that before!
WE... WE'RE GOING ON!
AS THEY SAY, YOU CAN'T CATCH THE TIGER CUB WITHOUT ENTERING THE TIGER'S DEN!

BUT YUURI-SAMA, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN CONTROLS WATER, SO PLEASE BE CAREFUL.
I KNOW.
BUT IT'S JUST WATER, AFTER ALL.
I JUST HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO GET DRAGGED UNDER OR TO LET IT GET IN MY MOUTH...
レロレロ
I WONDER WHERE THE QUEEN PUT MY CLOTHES?
THERE ARE SEVERAL SMALL TEMPLES IN THE PALACE... IT MIGHT BE IN ONE OF THOSE.
ザバーン
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY FROM ME THIS TIME!

It's only... water...
HUH!?

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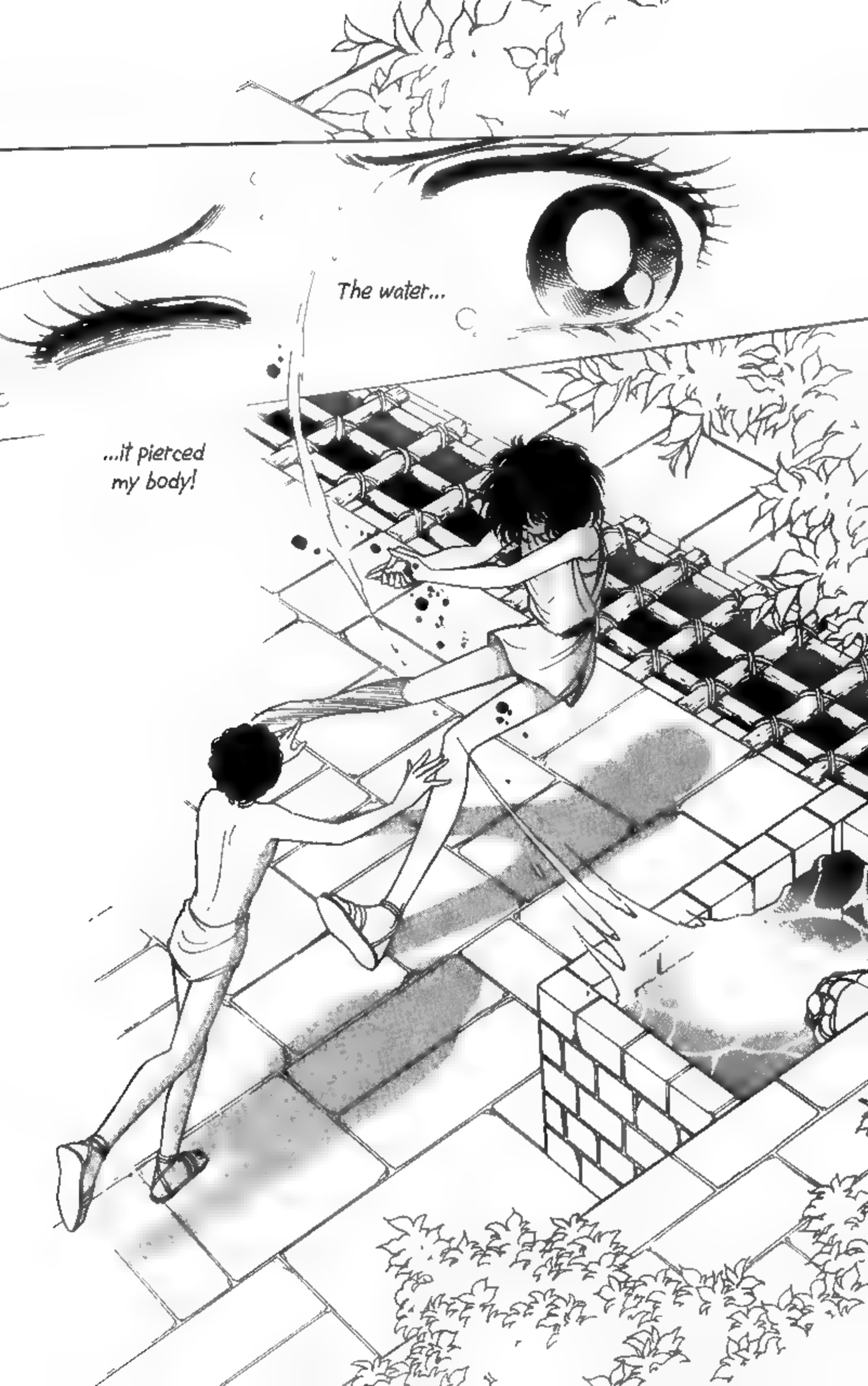
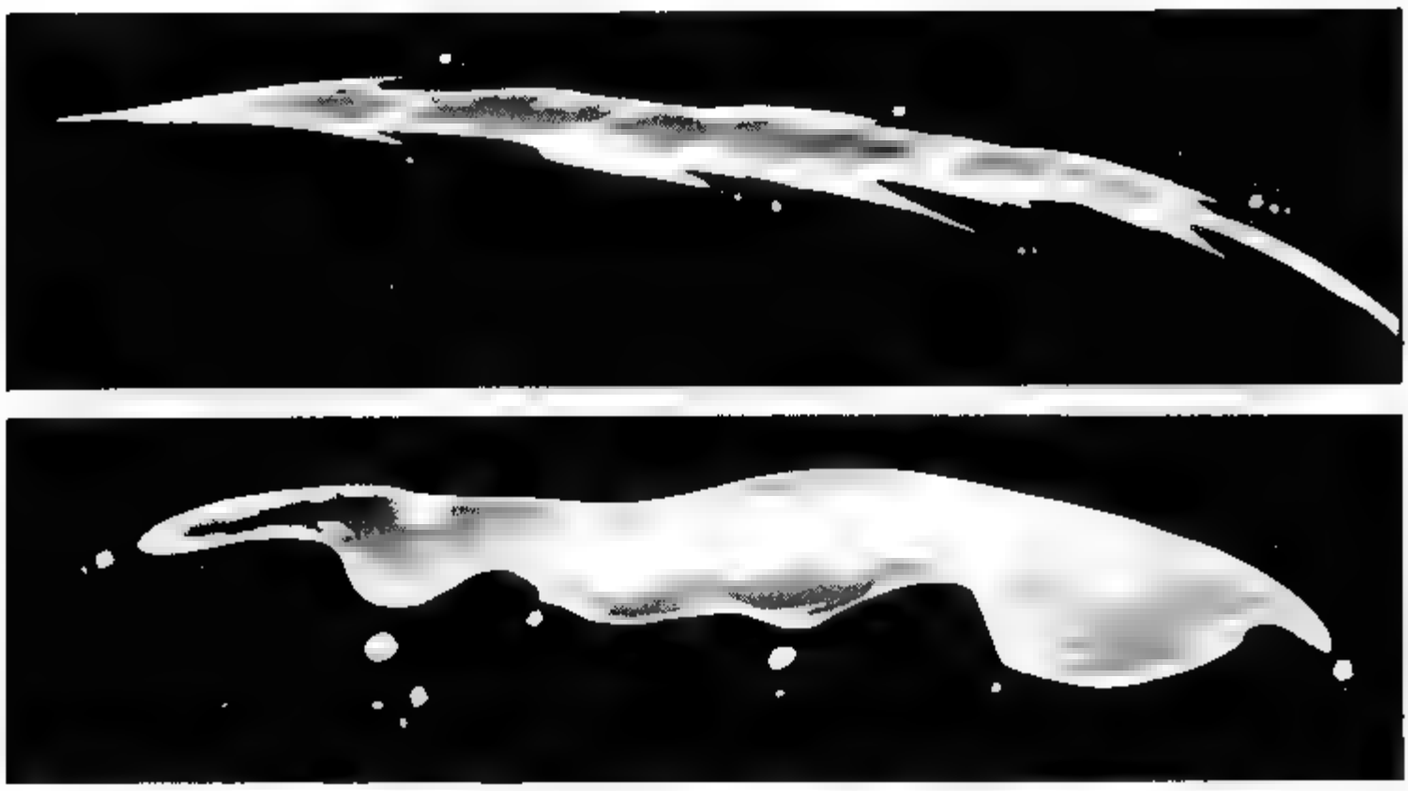

The water...
...it pierced my body!



OWW...
Water...
I didn't think water could be such a dangerous weapon!
ミシャ
ミシャ

!?
THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM...
YUURI-SAMA!
YOU MUSTN'T STAY THERE!! THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM IS RIGHT BELOW YOU!
ゴゴゴ!!
WATER!!

EEEK!
N-NO! WE WENT TO ALL THIS TROUBLE TO GET HERE!
YUURI-SAMA, LET'S GO BACK!
WE HAVE TO GET MY CLOTHES BACK!
WE SHOULD LEAVE THIS KIND OF THING TO KAIL-SAMA...

YUURI-SAMA!
IT'LL BE OKAY.
JUST GOTTA BE MORE CAREFUL NEXT TIME.
MUSTN'T GO NEAR ANY WATER...
HUH!?

Is this guy also...
KEEAAAAAGH!
...one of the Queen's men?

STOP!
LET GO OF YUURI-SAMA!
UGH!
STOP! LET ME GO!
I SAID STOP IT!

My
clothes

WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
'TIS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE SEEN SUCH...
!!
SUCH IVORY SKIN YOU HAVE...
ミシャラン
STOP THAT!!
SHE IS NOT YOURS TO PREY UPON.

YOU NEED NOT WORRY YOURSELF OVER SUCH TRIVIAL MATTERS.
YOU'VE MADE ME GO TO SUCH TROUBLE...
THIS TIME YOU'LL LOSE YOUR HEAD FOR SURE.
THE... THE QUEEN!?
EVEN IF YOU HIDE YOUR FACE LIKE THAT I CAN STILL TELL YOU'RE THE QUEEN!
ミャラランン
!!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT? SHE HAS NONE OF THE GOLD OR SILVER YOU DESIRE SO GREATLY.
GIVE ME THIS GIRL'S BODY AFTER YOU'VE SLIT HER THROAT!

THIS SKIN...
MY CLOTHES ARE ALL HANDMADE FROM THE SKINS OF THE PEOPLE I'VE KILLED.
Human...
...skin!?
I WANT THIS IVORY SKIN, PURE LIKE A NEWBORN BABY'S.
THE BLACK IS NUBIAN, THE BROWN IS EGYPTIAN.
LET ME TEAR HER SKIN OFF!
I WANT TO ADD THIS GIRL'S SKIN IN TOO.

HURRY AND CUT HER!
!!
HURRY.
I'LL HAVE NO USE FOR HER BODY ONCE I'VE CUT HER NECK AND DRAINED HER BLOOD.
DO AS YOU LIKE.
GYAHA HAHA!
THIS SKIN WILL BE MINE!
THIS...
THIS IS ABSURD!
KILLING ME AND DEATH-CURSING THE PRINCES IS COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS!
THOSE PRINCES WILL DIE IN GREAT AGONY.
IT'S A SHAME I WON'T BE ABLE TO SHOW YOU THEIR AGONIZING DEATHS.

O, WATER GOD OF MINE!
NOW RECEIVE THIS GIRL'S BLOOD!
SHIII

I don't want to die like this...!
MY GOD!
I want to see Papa and Mama again...
...and Marie-neechan and Eimi!
GRANT MY HEART'S DESIRE IN RETURN FOR THIS BLOOD!
And also, Himu.....

Nooooooo!
Prince Kail...!
MAKE THIS GIRL'S HEAD FALL!

MY WATER BASIN!

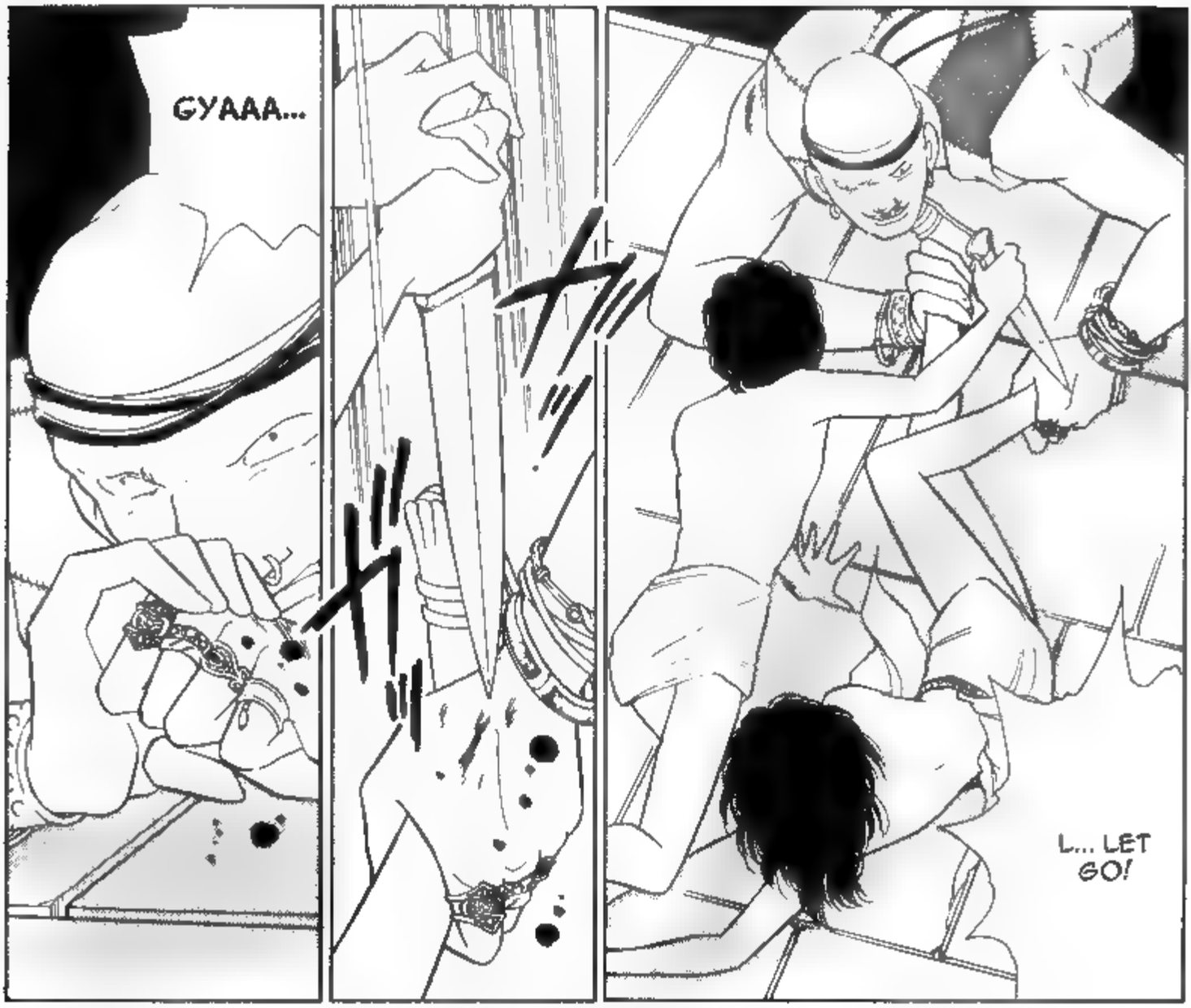
Why didn't I call out for Himuro...
Wh... Why!?
...but instantly think of Prince Kail instead!?
YUURI-SAMA, HURRY UP AND RUN!
Th... that's right!
I don't care about the Prince!
I'm returning to my family, and to Himuro!!
So my clothes...
YUURI-SAMA!

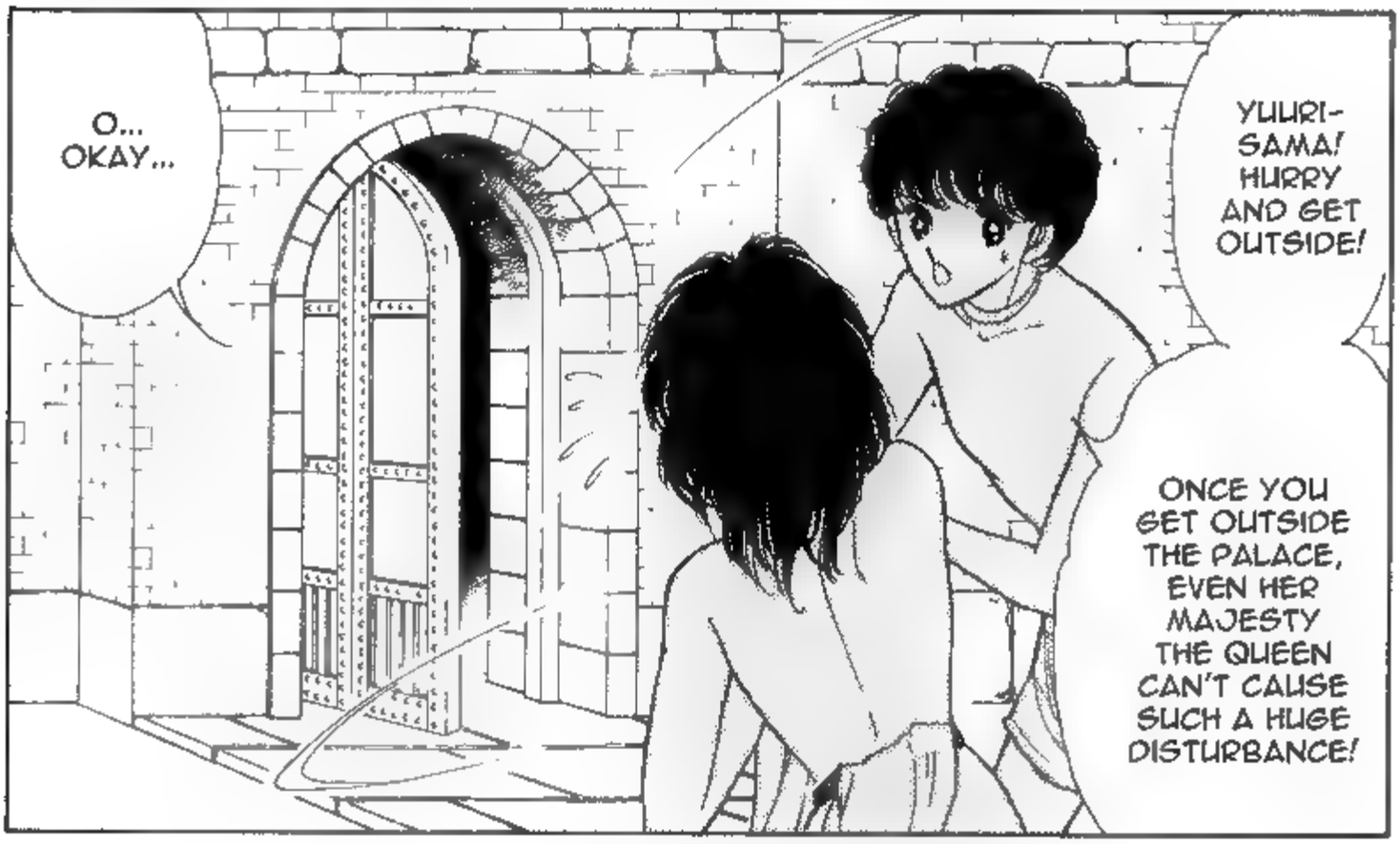
I GOT MY CLOTHES BACK!
YUURI-SAMA, THIS WAY!
With this, I can return to the 20th century!
TITO!

I CAN'T CONTROL THE WATER IF MY BASIN IS EMPTY!
YOU MUST CATCH HER!!
CHASE AFTER HER!!
THAT'S GREAT, YUURI-SAMA!
I'M SO HAPPY!
WITH THIS, I CAN FINALLY GO BACK HOME!
I'M SO HAPPY!

IF YOU GO BACK, KAIL-SAMA WILL MISS YOU TOO.
.....
TITO...
BUT TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I WANT YOU TO STAY HERE...
...BECAUSE THERE'S NO ONE LIKE YOU IN THIS COUNTRY.
THE... THE PRINCE WOULDN'T MISS ME AT ALL.
That's right... If I go home, he'll definitely be glad.
He'll go back to all his beautiful lovers...

KYAAAAAAAH!!!
EEEEE_
I'M NOT LETTING YOU GET AWAY, LITTLE GIRL!


GYAAA...
L... LET GO!


O... OKAY...
YUURI-SAMA! HURRY AND GET OUTSIDE!
ONCE YOU GET OUTSIDE THE PALACE, EVEN HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN CAN'T CAUSE SUCH A HUGE DISTURBANCE!

Aiiee!!
TITO!
YUURI-SAMA! HURRY UP AND GET OUT!
YOU LITTLE RUNT!
I'LL TEAR YOUR SKIN OFF!
YOU'VE INTERFERED TOO MANY TIMES!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SAVING MY LIFE.
I WAS TRULY HAPPY.
YUURI-SAMA.
TITO!?
AAAAH!

TITO!
YOU BRAT!
YUURI-SAMA, GOOD LUCK!
!!
YOU...
DO YOU REALLY WANT YOUR SKIN RIPPED OFF!?

TITO!!
"Saving his life"... he said?
I never did anything! I'm the one dragging him into this kind of thing and getting saved so many times...
OPEN UP!
OPEN THE DOOR!
YUURI!!

PRINCE KAIL!
WHAT?!
HELP!
TITO'S INSIDE!!
PLEASE, SAVE TITO!

PLEASE SAVE HIM! HE'S GOING TO BE KILLED!
TITO WAS CAPTURED BY THE QUEEN!?
It's all my fault!
I got Tito involved in this!
TITO'S GOING TO BE KILLED!

WHERE THE SKY AND RED RIVER MEET ① The End

End of Volume 1

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